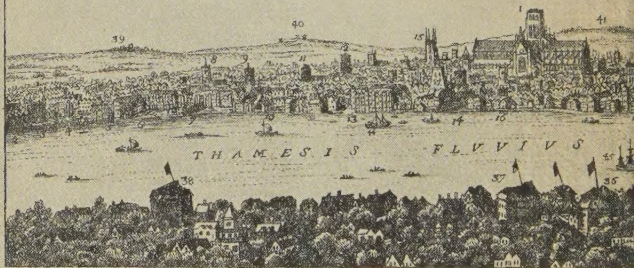


OLD
LONDON CITY

LILIAN AND ASHMORE RUSSAN

Emily Orrell

WRIGHT



- 1 1 *S^t Paul,*
- 2 *White Hall*
- 3 *Suffolke house*
- 4 *Yorke house*
- 5 *Savoy*
- 6 *Somerfet house*

- 7 *Arundell house,*
- 8 *S^t Clemens*
- 9 *S^t Dunstons*
- 10 *The Temple,*
- 11 *S^t Brides*
- 12 *S^t Andrew,*

- 13 *Baynards Castle*
- 14 *Queene Nythe,*
- 15 *S^t Pulchers*
- 16 *Three Cranes*
- 17 *The Waterhouse*
- 18 *The Stillyards*

- 19 *Bow Church*
- 20 *Guild Hall*
- 21 *S^t Michaels*
- 22 *S^t Lorents Fount*
- 23 *Fishmongers Ha*
- 24 *The Old Swan*

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

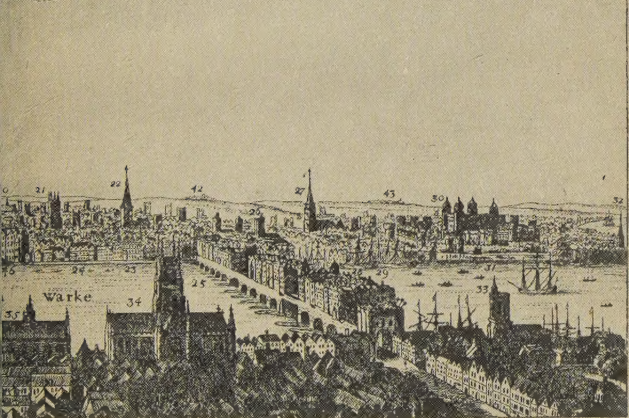
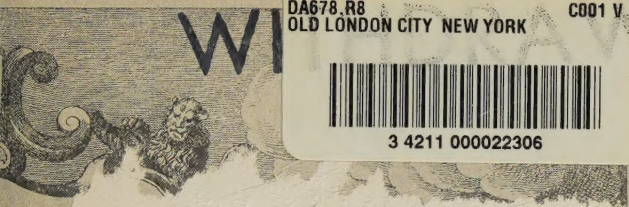
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the Bridge
by Church,
Dunstan in the East,
Elizabethan house,
the Tower,

31 Tower wharf
32 S. Catharine
33 S. Olave,
34 S. Marie Overis,
35 Winchester house
36 The Globe,

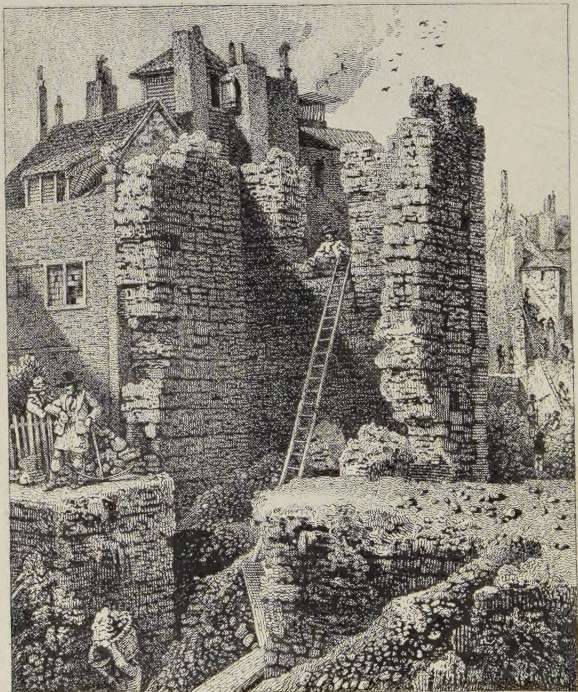
37 Bear Garden
38 The Swan,
39 Harrowe on the Hill,
40 Hamsted,
41 Kygate
42 Hackney,

43 Poutney,
44 Ell Ships
45 Gally Fuste,
46 Cool harbour.

OLD LONDON CITY



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Engraved from a drawing by J. G. Smith.

PUBLIC ARCHITECTURE.

Drawn by J. G. Smith.

INSIDE VIEW OF THE WATCH-TOWER DISCOVERED NEAR LUDGATE HILL, MAY 1792.

THE ENGRAVING AND THE DRAWING BY J. G. SMITH, AND THE DESIGN BY J. G. SMITH.

THE WATCH-TOWER, LUDGATE HILL, 1792.

[Frontispiece

OLD LONDON CITY

A HANDBOOK, PARTLY ALPHABETICAL

BY

LILIAN AND ASHMORE RUSSAN

AUTHORS OF "HISTORIC STREETS OF LONDON:
AN ALPHABETICAL HANDBOOK"

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WE have again to thank Mr. C. W. F. Goss, F.S.A., for many kindnesses, and for most valuable assistance, not only in advice, always most generously given, but in the loan of many books of reference, and more especially for the illustrations, which, like those reproduced in our previous little work, HISTORIC STREETS OF LONDON, are from his private collection of rare prints, and freely placed at our service by him.

THE AUTHORS.

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INTRODUCTORY

As with our previous little book, *HISTORIC STREETS OF LONDON: AN ALPHABETICAL HANDBOOK*, it was our original intention, for convenience of reference and to avoid a voluminous Index, to deal with each subject in alphabetical order; but this was found impossible with such themes as "Old London Signs," "Street Cries," "Walls and Gates," "Diversions of Old London," etc. We have, however, adhered to the plan with regard to "The Churches of London's Old City," the "Short Biographies of Citizens," "The City Livery Companies," etc., which, together, comprise about one-half of the little volume. It was also part of the original scheme to limit the book to the City of London, which, so far as convenient, has also been adhered to. In writing of the Bridges and Signs, however, such limitation would have been very inconvenient. It goes without saying that in a work so small, exhaustive treatment of any subject has been out of the question. Hundreds of facts and incidents have had to be neglected, much of the greatest interest passed by with the merest mention. For such and all other shortcomings we can only plead want of space, and express our regret for omissions.

THE AUTHORS.

OLD LONDON CITY

CHAPTER I

LONDON'S OLD WALLS AND GATES

WHAT was London like before the Romans built their great wall? The earliest record available is of A.D. 61, at which date Londinium was undefended by ramparts, but full of merchants and their goods, just an open British town with, perhaps, no bridge over the Thames, but merely a ferry to the southern bank of the river. Many Roman and other merchants of sorts, but not yet become a Roman colony. Not easily to be defended, or the Roman Governor, Suetonius, might have been expected to put up a fight there against Boadicea and her Icenî. He abandoned Londinium, and the record says that all who remained were slaughtered; but that evacuation may have been "strictly according to plan," for in that same A.D. 61, Suetonius defeated the Icenî, and Boadicea made an end of herself by poison. At this date the population may have been 30,000, and there was probably the beginning of a fort, if not a bridge, for not long afterwards a strong fort certainly existed, protecting a

bridge (which was always, be it noted, in much about the same place through the centuries), and two ports, or, perhaps, wharves, at what are now Dowgate and Billingsgate. The fort may have been the beginning of the great semi-circular bastions of stone and brick overlooking the Wallbrook at Dowgate, which would appear to have covered all the space occupied by Cannon Street Station to Laurence Pountney Lane, and comprised the western face of the wall-protected citadel that eventually extended to Billingsgate. So we come to the Roman wall proper—really the third wall of which there are records.

Who and when? Who built the great wall round London's Old City, and what was the date of its building? Various writers have expressed their opinions, but they do not agree. One concludes that the Wall was built by Theodosius about A.D. 368, or some ten years before he became Emperor. Theodosius reigned from A.D. 379 to 395. This writer, however, suggests various dates, including A.D. 298, and gives the opinion of other historians: that the Roman wall was commenced by Constantine the Great (who reigned from A.D. 306 to 337); by his mother, the Empress Helena; in the reign of Valentinianus I (A.D. 363–375), which last would agree with his above-stated conclusion that the wall was built by the victorious Roman general Theodosius, in the reign of Valentinianus. Another writer says: "It is certain that, either under Constantine

himself, or under one of his immediate successors, the outer wall was built." Constantine the Great died A.D. 337, leaving Gaul, Spain, and Britain to the rule of his son Constantius, who died A.D. 340. He adds: "In 350 London had no wall; and in 369 the wall existed." If this last dictum is correct, Constantine could not have built the wall, for he was dead. We must leave the subject at that, merely remarking that the evidence appears to be in favour of Theodosius, who, defeating the Picts and Scots about A.D. 368, relieved London, and was joyfully received by the citizens at their *gates*, which is good evidence that the wall existed then. That the wall was built towards the end (A.D. 409) of the Roman occupation finds the greatest favour with students of the subject, but these are legion, and mostly they agree to differ.

Not all the descriptions of the route taken by the builders of the wall are in harmony. Pen-
nant, who begins his account at the Tower end, says that the Roman wall "continued along the Minories and the back of Houndsditch, across Bishopsgate Street in a straight line by London Wall to Cripplegate; then returned southward by Crowder's Well Alley to Aldersgate; then along the back of Bull and Mouth Street to Newgate, and, again, along the back of the houses in the old Bailey to Newgate; soon after which it probably finished with another fort, where the house, late the King's Printing House, in Black Friars, now stands,"

that is, at the office of *The Times*, Printing House Square, with a bastion, or tower, which, or its successor, appears to have been afterwards known as Mountfitchet Castle. On the river bank, near by, was a strong fort at the bend of the wall, and here Ralph Baynard built his great castle in the reign of William the Conqueror.

Loftie, in his description of the line taken by the wall, commences at this, the Blackfriars, end, or rather corner, for the wall, as implied above, extended along the river to the Tower. He says: "Beginning at Blackfriars, we may follow it in a northerly direction along the crest of the hill above the Fleet. A water-gate, opening on the little river, was at Ludgate. The chief exit on this side was at Newgate . . . Here the Watling Street emerged from the City. The wall then took a north-easterly course, between St. Bartholomew's Hospital and Christ's Hospital, and forming a kind of angle where Aldersgate was afterwards made, turned north for a short distance, and then east again to Bishopsgate, the second great landgate of the City. It" (the Roman gate) "stood a little to the east of the Mediæval gate," (erected, it is assumed, by Bishop Erkenwald), "and gave admission to travellers arriving from the north by the Ermyrn Street, and from the east by the Vicinal Way, which united at this point. Thence, sloping in a south-easterly direction, past the point where Aldgate was opened in the later time, it reached the Thames exactly on the spot on which the White Tower



LONDON WALL.

In the Church Yard of St. Giles's, Cripplegate.

*As now standing this part of LONDON WALL and from its ruin and appearance it is
now has been preserved as this is the most perfect part it has left the height from the
ground to the top of the Battlement is ten feet.*

*LONDON WALL was first built about the year 537 AD. by the Romans and the name of the
Cripplegate and the name of the wall is derived from the fact that the wall was built on the
site of the old Roman wall. In the 14th century the wall was rebuilt and the name of the wall
was changed to Cripplegate. In the 16th century the wall was again rebuilt and the name of the wall
was changed to Cripplegate. In the 17th century the wall was again rebuilt and the name of the wall
was changed to Cripplegate.*

Photographed May 10. 1891 by N. Smith, 1898 G. Mayo Buildings, St. Martins Lane

OLD LONDON WALL.

now stands." At this spot, it is recorded, a bastion of the wall was removed to make room for the tower.

According to various authorities, the circumference of the whole of the wall was 3 miles, 205 yards. Along the river it was strengthened by piles and bastions, the approximate line being that of Lower and Upper Thames Streets. One authority attributes four of the old gates to the Romans—viz. on the east, Aldgate; on the north, Aldersgate; on the west, Ludgate; with the Bridge Gate on the south. The other gates—Newgate, Cripplegate, Bishopsgate, Dowgate, and the Postern Gate—were, he says, erected from time to time for the accommodation of the citizens; but excavations have shown that in the Roman wall was a gate very near to the site of the mediæval Newgate, and there is a suggestion of a Roman postern near the site of Cripplegate, which name, by the way, has nothing to do with cripples, but is believed to have been derived from the Anglo-Saxon *crepel*, a burrow, and probably means the narrow, cramped, or sunk gate. Another writer gives the number of the Roman land-gates as two, with three water-gates, and the Bridge Gate.

We have no knowledge of the names given by the Romans to their gates, and it is just as well to remember that all the names by which the gates are known to us are Anglo-Saxon, like Watling Street and Ermyn or Eormin Street.

Of gates on the river one writer gives a list

of eight—viz. Wolf Gate, Eb Gate, Puddle-dock Gate, Oyster Gate, Botolph's Gate, Billingsgate, and the Water-gates by the Tower and the Custom-House, but some were probably hythes, or wharves.

On the land side along the Roman wall there were at intervals fifteen semicircular bastions joined to the wall, but apparently erected independently of it, and constructed of the same materials, rag-stones and bricks, in courses of about 2 feet of stones, with binding, double courses of bricks about an inch and three-tenths thick, imbedded in mortar. The Roman bricks resemble tiles rather than bricks, the courses being continued from the foundations to the top of the wall, which, it is believed, was originally about 22 feet high, the bastions, or towers, being about 40 feet in height.

The space within the wall was crossed by two main streets, Watling Street and Eormin, or Ermin, Street, the first running west by north from the bridge approach in the direction of Newgate, and the other north-easterly to Bishopsgate. At the bridge foot, or approach, Watling Street and Ermin Street met, or rather branched off, and here was the market-place, East Chepe, as it was many centuries later. May we again remind the reader that these names were bestowed by the Saxons?

Within the circumference of the wall were many fine villas of one storey, bungalows, so to say, each in its pleasure-garden and covering much space. These stood on the banks of the

Wall-brook ; on Cornhill ; on the slopes of the ravine near what is now Threadneedle Street. No doubt there were many mean dwellings, miserable huts, but few, if any, very large buildings, except perhaps one which may have been a basilica, or a Court of Justice, near the great fort at Dowgate. No remains of temples have been found, which has been accounted for by the fact that Londinium, or "Augusta," as the Romans named it, was a Christian city after the wall was built. Apparently the name of "Augusta," or "Londinium Augusta," was only used during the brief period which elapsed between the reorganisation of the Roman Empire by Constantine and his immediate successors, and the end of the Roman occupation of Britain in the reign of Honorius ; but during most of this period of seventy or eighty years "Augusta" sheltered a Roman army, high Roman officials, and an increasing population.

With regard to the origin of the name of London, we have no reliable information, except that it is certainly British, or, we should say, Celtic. Of Londinium there were several variants, Lundinum being one of them. Ethelbert, in a charter of A.D. 734, calls the city "Lundon," and later mentions "Ludentune's Hythe," which may possibly mean the "Wharf of London town."

To return to the Gates. On capturing London, about A.D. 884, King Alfred speedily commenced to repair the Roman wall and the gates, and to build new gates. Two, if not

three, are attributed to him. Moorgate almost certainly did not exist at this period, and Cripplegate was probably never more than a small postern. Notwithstanding other opinions, Aldgate also did not apparently exist in Roman times, and we are unable to ascertain the date of its erection. There is, likewise, considerable doubt with regard to Ludgate having a Roman origin, but apparently none with respect to Aldersgate. Newgate, however, at one period bore the name of Westgate, and of Chamberlain's Gate at another, while in early records Aldgate was frequently written "Ale-gate." Pepys, by the way, spells it "Allgate." To deal in any way exhaustively with the subject is impossible in one short chapter; while seeing that scarcely any of the authorities agree, the only prudent course is to give such information as is available and carefully avoid all pretence of superior knowledge which we do not possess. There is no doubt, however, that such of the city gates as remained in 1760 were ordered to be pulled down. They would appear to have been Aldgate, which was sold for £177 10s.; Cripplegate, which realised £91; and Ludgate, for which £148 was paid.

The old Roman wall was many times repaired and even rebuilt in the Middle Ages, and subsequently, and some authorities are of opinion that, except the foundations, which, of course, are mostly hidden, little of the wall now visible is Roman, though it largely consists of the old material. We will conclude by indi-

cating where such fragments, Roman or mediæval, may be seen.

In the basement of a clothier's shop, that of Messrs. Baker & Co., at 41 to 43, Ludgate Hill, may be inspected a fragment, either Roman or mediæval, of the wall that ran north from the river at Blackfriars and crossed what is now Ludgate Hill, but was formerly Bowyers Row, about two-thirds of the way up the slope. This fragment is protected with cement, but it represents the top of the wall. As a similar fragment was uncovered in making a passageway in the premises of Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall, Hamilton, Kent & Co. (the publishers of this little book) in Stationers' Hall Court, on the opposite side of the hill from Messrs. Baker's, the evidence that the wall crossed Ludgate Hill at this spot is confirmed; and if the Romans had a gate in this part of their fortification, there is some probability that this would have been the place. As we have already mentioned, the wall was several times rebuilt and increased in height, but, it is believed, always on the Roman foundations and on the same line.

At St. Martin's, Ludgate, on the same side as Stationers' Hall Court, fragments of the mediæval wall may be seen in the vestry passage; while near by, in Amen Court, there is a wall of some length built of the old materials, and, it is believed, upon the Roman foundations. In the Central Criminal Court in the Old Bailey in the same neighbourhood, some 10 feet below

the level of the street, is another portion of the wall, which is an exemplification of the Roman method of binding with their tile-like bricks. We understand that Tuesdays and Fridays are the days when inspection is permitted. Beneath the yard of the General Post Office may be seen the remains of a corner of the wall and of a Roman bastion. This is railed round for protection and can be viewed by permission of the Secretary.

Another fragment may be seen in the churchyard of St. Botolph in Aldersgate, very near to the G.P.O. In the churchyard of St. Giles, Cripplegate, may be viewed the remains of a bastion which protected the angle of the wall where it turned in an easterly direction and took an almost direct line along London Wall to Bishopsgate. On this line, in the churchyard of St. Alphage, another portion of the wall may be seen which is declared to be a piece of the actual Roman wall repaired with brick about 1510. Another length of the mediæval wall, erected on Roman foundations, may be inspected in the churchyard of All Hallows on the Wall, in London Wall, near the corner of Old Broad Street. Here the vestry stands on one of the Roman bastions. At Roman Wall House, No. 1 Crutched Friars, which is approaching the Tower extremity of the wall, a fragment about 20 feet long by 9 feet high may be viewed by the courtesy of the occupiers; while in Cooper's Row, close at hand, at the vaults of Messrs. Barber & Co., may be seen,

also by courtesy, a section about 112 feet long by 35 feet high and 8 feet in thickness. Here, in the basement, the actual Roman work is uncovered. How deep the foundations may be does not appear to be known. At No. 8, The Crescent, near by, the other side of the wall just mentioned may be inspected. In Trinity Place, Tower Hill, there is a large fragment of the mediæval wall open to the view. Finally, at the south-east corner of the White Tower, in the Tower of London, may be seen the last time-worn section now visible in this locality, for here was the river end of the wall.

CHAPTER II

OF SOME LONDON BRIDGES

OLD LONDON BRIDGE. As is fitting, this brief sketch of some of London's bridges begins with the earliest.

That a bridge spanned the Thames at London in Roman times there are records to show. *Herestreet*, a Roman military way, connected Watling Street with a London Bridge. The part of Watling Street from which branched the military way may be said to have occupied the position of the present Edgware Road, whence *Herestreet* would appear to have run directly towards what is now Westminster, but then might have been described as a tidal estuary, its mud being hidden by turgid water twice a day. The road apparently turned in a north-easterly direction, passing by Charing, and onwards, following the curves of the stream, to a point where the river was narrower. At this point the records indicate that there was a bridge, presumably built of great beams and piles, but whatever its construction, it is certain that to it London owed much of its early prosperity, as, except



OLD LONDON BRIDGE.

by boat, it was the only means of communication with what is now Southwark, and with the whole of the south country. What happened to that earliest of old London bridges is hidden in the mist of the long ago.

For records of the next London Bridge we must look forward some eight or nine hundred years, to the reign of Ethelred the Unready, or somewhere between A.D. 993 and 1016, when it is certain that a wooden bridge crossed the river a short distance to the east of the present structure, the probability being that it was a strong bridge, well fortified, with a defensive tower at the Southwark end, for when about 1017 Canute the Dane sailed up the Thames to capture London, he found that he could not pass the bridge, so avoided it by cutting a canal on the Surrey side and diverting the course of the stream, which enabled him to sail his ships from the east to the west of the barrier without much hindrance; the canal also probably made it impossible for the people on the south bank to come to the assistance of the bridge's defenders. The wooden bridge, however, being very costly to maintain and giving much trouble in many ways, the citizens of London resolved to replace it by one of stone to be erected a little to the west of the wooden one. This decision was come to about the year 1173, in the reign of Henry II, who granted a tax on wool to defray its

cost. This gave rise to the legend that old London Bridge was built on wool-packs, on which, of course, the tax was levied.

The most able architect in the kingdom at the time was reputed to be Peter, a priest, and Curate or Chaplain of St. Mary Colechurch, which, before its destruction in the Great Fire, stood in the Poultry (Cheapside), on the north side, and at the end of Cony-hoop Lane. In passing, we may mention that Thomas à Becket was baptized there. To Peter of Colechurch the great work was entrusted. Here we would like to mention that G. Herbert Rodwell, whose book, *Old London Bridge*, brims over with interesting details of life thereon, dedicated that work to Peter in the following words: "To the Memory of Peter of Colechurch, the Priest-Architect who Built Old London Bridge, the First Stone Bridge that ever crossed the River of Thames."

Peter commenced his great work in 1176, and appears to have wrestled with his tremendous task for twenty-nine years. He died in 1205, leaving the bridge still uncompleted, which fact calls up tender thoughts of that persistent old priest-architect, lying on his bed, no doubt on the bridge itself, and, "till Death released him from the Weighty Load," vexing his brave soul over the seemingly endless job he had undertaken in his prime. They buried him in the chapel called "St. Thomas of the Bridge"

(Thomas à Becket's Chapel on the Bridge), where in 1737 a body was discovered which was believed to be Peter's. It would be difficult to imagine a more fitting resting-place, in the centre of his life's work, one to which Wren's "*Si monumentum requiris, circumspice*," could almost equally well have been applied. Four years or thereabouts after Peter's death his great work was completed. And what a work it was! Roughly, the river was three hundred yards wide. The bridge had nineteen or twenty arches and a drawbridge for ships. So confined were these waterways by the width of the solid, massive piers and the "sterlings," or piles that protected them, that the three hundred yards of swirling stream had rather less than two hundred feet of space to flow through. Imagine the scene at each flow and ebb of the tide! On either side of the bridge, according to the state of the tide, the waters massed six feet high and fell through the passage-ways in foaming, roaring cataracts. Yet Peter's bridge stood six centuries and nearly a quarter of a seventh, according to one authority, so well had the old priest builded.

King John had recommended that the completion of Peter's great job should be entrusted to one Isenbert; but, according to the records, the bridge was taken in hand by three London merchants named respectively Serle Mercer (probably, Serle, a

mercator), William Almaine, and Benedict Botewright, or Boatwright (possibly a boat-builder), who finished their task in 1209.

The representation of Old London Bridge in this little work can hardly fail to set the reader wondering how it came about that the structure should have been so burdened with great buildings, with shops, houses, towers, and a church impeding the roadway and always a source of danger! Well, except the river itself, the bridge was the only thoroughfare from London to the south, the only road into the City from that side. Often it must have been thronged with people, and where there are numbers of folk there are many prospective customers. The shops doubtless began their existence as sheds or stalls lining the parapets. We may imagine, if we will, that the ball was set rolling by some ancient apple-woman. She saw a good "pitch," occupied it, throve mightily, and her example was followed. The sheds and stalls increased in number and value. Soon sleeping-accommodation was required, so rooms were built over or behind the sheds, often overhanging the parapet; one storey rose above another, and so Old London Bridge got its impedimenta. But let us look at the bridge as it appeared in the middle of the sixteenth century.

On the roadway, which was 40 feet wide, stood two towers, one on either side of the eighteenth arch and near the Southwark end.

In the centre of the bridge stood the chapel before referred to, dedicated to St. Thomas. Some of the buildings, which were four or five storeys high, stretched entirely across the roadway, thus holding the whole together. An archway under the centre of these buildings permitted the traffic to pass. Some of the arches resembled tunnels, and were only 4 yards wide. Where the houses did not stretch entirely across the roadway, but were built on either side of the bridge, the windows almost touched. As generally the higher storeys were wider than the lower, and indeed, grew wider as the building ascended, the darkness in the roadway may be imagined. On the bridge were three wide openings free from buildings, which afforded good views up and down the river from over rail-protected parapets, and afforded places of refuge for the people crossing the bridge. Where the drawbridge was situated, the opening was 50 feet long. As the houses generally overhung the parapets, a means was devised of holding the two rows of houses in position by enormous wooden beams, which extended from roof to roof across and high over the roadway. Stretched across likewise were also narrow bridges, from which hung signs which creaked in the wind, and indicated the name of the shop or house below, as "The Lock of Hair," "The Sugar Loaf," "The Three Bibles," "The Lamb and Breeches," etc. What with the

deafening roar of the waters and the clatter of the traffic, it must sometimes have been rather difficult for the shopkeepers to hear their customers' requirements.

St. Thomas's Chapel on the bridge, which stood on the ninth pier from the London end, was no less than 60 feet long, $20\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide, and 14 feet high. It had an entrance from the river, as well as from the roadway on the bridge, and was paved with black and white marble. A monument which appears to have stood in the middle of the building is supposed to have covered the tomb of Peter of Colechurch. The chapel, built in the reign of Henry VI, is said to have been the first important building erected on London Bridge. Afterwards it was considerably increased in size, and at one time there were four chaplains attached to it. Amongst other important buildings on the bridge was "Nonsuche House," which stretched entirely across it, with, of course, the usual archway in the middle—through the ground-floor, so to speak. This building rose four storeys in height, with a square domed tower at each corner, and is said to have been made in Holland, brought over in sections, and erected without the use of nails, in place of which wooden pegs were employed.

In 1730 the construction of Peter's bridge was examined into, it being recorded that the foundations were shown to consist of huge piles of timber driven into the mud and

clay as closely as possible. On the top of these piles were planks 10 inches thick, strongly bolted together and to the piles. Above were the stone piers, the bases of which were 9 feet above the bed of the river. These lower stones were laid in pitch instead of mortar.

Very naturally this bridge, although it stood for six centuries or more, frequently needed repairs. There were many disastrous occurrences: for instance, only four years after its completion a great fire broke out in Southwark, and there being a high wind, the flames set the bridge alight, the records say the north, or London end of it. A large number of people had crossed the bridge with the object of extinguishing the fire in Southwark, when they found that they were cut off from the London side. Before they could escape, a fire broke out at the south end, cutting the people off from Southwark also, the result being that, according to the records, 3,000 people lost their lives, either by fire or drowning. Another disaster occurred during a severe frost in 1282, when such masses of ice came down the river that five arches of the bridge were broken down.

It must not be supposed that our mythical apple-woman set her example of shopkeeping on Peter's bridge immediately after its completion. This is not so, for it is recorded that there were only thirteen houses on it in the year 1471, or 262 years later. Nor must

it be supposed that Peter's bridge was a beautifully proportioned structure such as Sir Christopher Wren could not have failed to build had the task been his, for the reverse was the case. The arches may be described as having been of all sorts and sizes, some, low and narrow, stood between others broad and lofty, the effect being an irregularity approaching deformity, the ugliness being added to by the lopsided buildings, some of which projected much farther over the parapets than others, overhanging the stream by feet.

During another examination or survey of the bridge which took place in 1725, the whole was measured, and it is recorded that the bridge was 915 feet 1 inch long; 40 feet 7 inches high; and, exclusive of the houses on each side, 20 feet wide. As the houses occupied 53 feet of the width, the total width of the bridge with the buildings upon it, at that date was apparently 73 feet.

In 1756 the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Council were authorised by Act of Parliament to purchase and remove the buildings on the bridge and those near to it, in order to widen the roadway and the approaches. They were also authorised to enlarge one or more of the arches, and to provide more safe and commodious passage-ways. They were further to construct a balustrade on each side of the bridge, to provide 7 feet on either side for foot passengers, and a roadway 31

feet wide for carriages, etc. As it was necessary to keep open communication between London and Southwark while the houses were being taken down, a strong temporary wooden bridge was constructed on the piles on the west side of the old one. This bridge was built in a curve and connected at both ends with the old approaches. It was completed in October 1757, and was found very safe and convenient; but in April of the next year, in the middle of the night, the temporary bridge burst into flames, apparently throughout its entire length, and continued burning until noon of the next day, when all that was left of it fell into the river. This calamity put an end to all communication between London and Southwark except by boats. Within a month, however, another temporary bridge was completed and opened. As arson was strongly suspected as being the cause of the first fire, proper precautions were now taken, many watchmen being employed, and it was ordered that any persons wilfully attempting to destroy the bridge, or any of the works belonging to it, should suffer the death-penalty.

Denuded of its buildings, the bridge lasted until 1825, when the present London Bridge was commenced. It was completed in 1831. Since then there have been various improvements.

Were we to attempt to narrate a tithe of the happenings on Old London Bridge, of its many tragedies and the many calamities

which it suffered, we would require twice the space allotted. We may, however, mention one more of the calamities, that in 1633, when no fewer than forty-three of the houses were destroyed by fire. For many years the blackened ruins would appear to have remained to cumber the roadway, hoardings being erected to prevent the people from falling into the river.

Old London Bridge had many famous residents, amongst whom we may mention Holbein, John Bunyan, and Hogarth. To the historians, we must refer those of our readers who may look for tragic tales of the many poor victims of savage laws whose heads, impaled on spikes, made hideous the gate at its Southwark end.

BLACKFRIARS BRIDGE. There is nothing particularly interesting to record about the bridge at Blackfriars, except its dedication. At a Court of Common Council held in December 1755, it was resolved to petition Parliament for authority to build a bridge there. This was done ; and an Act passed shortly afterwards sanctioning its construction. Plans were invited, that of Robert Mylne, a Scottish architect, being accepted, and in June 1760, the last year of the reign of George II, the first pile was driven amidst much civic ceremony.

The Act provided that the arches should aggregate 750 feet, or nearly four times the



BLACKFRIARS BRIDGE.

capacity of Peter of Colechurch's Bridge, and that no buildings, except the toll-houses, should be erected thereon. The expenses of the bridge to be defrayed by tolls paid by the passengers. For people afoot the bridge was opened in November 1766. A plate under the foundation-stone bears the following inscription :

" On the last day of October, in the year 1760, and in the beginning of the most auspicious reign of George the Third, Sir Thomas Chitty, Knight, Lord-Mayor, laid the First Stone of this Bridge undertaken by the Common-Council of London (in the height of an extensive war) for the public accommodation and ornament of the City, Robert Mylne being the Architect. And that there may remain to posterity a monument of this City's affection to the man who, by the strength of his genius, the steadiness of his mind, and a kind of happy contagion of his probity and spirit (under the Divine favour and fortunate auspices of George the Second), recovered, augmented, and secured The British Empire in Asia, Africa, and America. And restored the ancient reputation and influence of his country amongst the nations of Europe, The Citizens of London have unanimously voted this Bridge to be inscribed with the name of WILLIAM PITT."

It would appear therefore that the proper designation should be not Blackfriars, but Pitt's Bridge.

WATERLOO BRIDGE. After considerable advocacy and publicity, which to-day we should call propaganda work, a corporate body was formed about 1807 designated "The Strand Bridge Company," with a capital of £100,000, for the purpose of building a bridge from the Strand to the Surrey side of the river. The original idea appears to have been that by building a wooden bridge such revenues would be earned from the tolls as would very quickly pay for a stone one. For such a temporary structure the sanction of Parliament was asked. But for three successive sessions the Company's plans were opposed by the City authorities, until eventually the Company relinquished its project of a wooden bridge, increased its capital to £500,000, and applied for sanction to build one of stone, which was granted. It says something for the quality of the propaganda work that the shares went to a premium immediately, it is said, of a guinea. The necessary Act of Parliament was obtained in 1809, when the Strand Bridge Company was authorised to build a stone bridge from the precincts of the Savoy to Cupar's Bridge in Lambeth.

In the meantime plans had been considered, the design of John Rennie, the son of a Haddingtonshire farmer, being eventually accepted. The first stone was laid by the Chairman of the Company, the inscription on the plate being as follows :

“ This foundation stone of the Strand bridge was laid on Friday, the 11th of October, 1811, by the directors for executing the same : Henry Swan, esq, M.P. chairman, in the 51st year of the reign of king George the Third, and during the regency of his royal highness George Prince of Wales ; the money for building which was raised by subscription, under the authority of an Act of Parliament. Engineer, John Rennie, F.R.S.

“ The names of the gentlemen who have had the conducting of this work are Henry Swan, Esq. M.P. chairman ; Sir T. Tyrwhitt, knight ; Sir J. S. J. Duddell ; V. Rutter ; B. Bricknell ; E. Bilke ; J. Brogden, M.P. ; and J. Morris, esqrs. directors.”

The bridge was completed in 1816, but not opened until June 18, 1817, for in the period of its building the Battle of Waterloo had been fought and won (June 18, 1815), which induced the directors of the Company to apply for authority to change the name of their undertaking from the Strand Bridge to Waterloo Bridge, the reasons being thus made plain in the Act itself :

“ Whereas the said bridge when completed will be a work of great stability and magnificence, and such works are adapted to transmit to posterity the remembrance of great and glorious achievements, and whereas the Company of proprietors are desirous that a designation should be given to the said bridge which shall be a lasting record of the

brilliant and decisive victory [Waterloo] achieved by His Majesty's forces, in conjunction with those of His allies, on the 18th day of June, 1815."

At the opening, at which the Prince Regent, the Duke of York, and the Victor of Waterloo were present, 202 guns were fired, this being the number of the cannon captured at the famous battle. There was a vast assemblage of people and soldiers, the scene being commemorated by Constable in a painting which was hung at the Royal Academy. For many years Waterloo Bridge was considered the noblest bridge in Europe. The length of the bridge proper is 1,326 feet, but if the abutments and the arches which support the road at the approaches on each side of the river are added, the total length is 2,456 feet.

WESTMINSTER BRIDGE. This bridge is the second to span London's river at Westminster. The first, which was much admired, was opened at midnight on November 10, 1750. Owing, however, to subsidences of the foundations, the bridge, which had cost £389,500, was unsatisfactory. The present structure, which replaced it, was opened in 1862. It is built of iron on granite piers, and cost £393,189. The statue of Boadicea at its Westminster end is generally considered a remarkable work of art, with its arresting inscription :

“Regions Cæsar never knew,
Thy Posterity shall sway.”

THE TOWER BRIDGE. This splendid structure, which was designed by Sir John Wolfe Barry, son of Sir Charles Barry, the architect of the Houses of Parliament, was opened in 1894. It is a girder and suspension bridge, with a central main roadway between two lofty and massive towers, and consisting of bascules which can be raised by hydraulic machinery to admit the passage of large vessels. It is 800 feet long, and has been described as the most beautiful bridge in London. But this is a matter of opinion. Small vessels may pass readily, but on the approach of a large steamship the powerful machinery in the towers is operated, the roadway opens in the centre, and each half rises in a vertical direction towards its respective tower. For foot-passengers there is an upper bridge.

CHAPTER III

OLD LONDON SIGNS

It would doubtless be difficult to fix a period in human history from which the beginning of the use of Signs could be dated, but easy enough to imagine that a crude representation of "Old Sabretooth"—the cave-man's tiger and ever-hungry foe—scratched with a sharp flint on the clean-picked shoulder-blade of a deer served to direct harassed and bereaved cave-men to the abode of a mighty hunter, always available for slaying tigers when needed ; or, to descend to domesticity, that a rude drawing of a bone needle and hank of sinews did, in that long-distant Stone Age, signify to cave-women that plain sewing was "done here." It will, perhaps, be looking back sufficiently far, however, if we take a cursory glance at Ancient Rome, where a bush of evergreens indicated a wine-shop—as in Old London—and artificers hung out tools to advertise their trades ; or at long-buried Pompeii and Herculaneum, where, in their heyday, the picture of a nanny-goat told the housewife that milk was on sale ; a mule turning a flour-mill served as the sign of a baker ; and a boy under chastisement that of a schoolmaster ;

or to the Catacombs, where a figure of Bacchus pressing grapes, of a woman with a comb and a mirror, and figures of slaves bearing a huge *amphora* of wine, indicate that the deceased had been respectively wine-shop keepers and a ladies' hairdresser.

But our theme is the myriad signs of Old London, house signs, shop signs, tavern signs, bath-house signs, painted, or carved in wood or in stone, suspended from elaborate wrought-iron brackets, fixed to walls or to posts, or hung from arches. Of the old signs of Lombard Street, it is safe to say that very much more is known to-day than of those of any other London Street, which knowledge is due to the many years of study given to the subject by Mr. F. G. Hilton Price, to whose book, *The Signs of Old Lombard Street*, we are greatly indebted. Mr. Price met with many difficulties, as he found that the houses had sometimes different signs to the shops, which might have been mere booths, or lean-to sheds against the houses. However, he was able to give particulars of a very large number. Of the new signs, or rather the representations of old ones, which appeared at the time of Edward VII's Coronation, the following details are available, the numbers representing the street numbers of the buildings:

No. 11, Minerva; * 18, the Phoenix; 20, the Star; * 21, the Anchor and Crown; 24, the Artichoke; 27, the Queen's Head and Sun; 28, the Artichoke (No. 2); 29, the Black Boy;

31, the Adam and Eve; 38, the Unicorn; 40, the Blackamoor's Head; 56, the Black Spread Eagle; * 57, the Ram; * 60, the King's Head; 62, the African Lion; also * the Cat-a-fiddling; * 67, the Blue Anchor; * 68, the Grasshopper; 70, the Pelican, 73, the Black Horse; 77, the Vine; 78, the Cardinal's Cap; * 81, the Seven Stars. Of the foregoing all those marked with an asterisk are to be seen, either pendent or carved in stone, in this year of grace 1924. Many, if not most of Lombard Street's old signs have been traced back as nearly as possible to the exact positions they once occupied, and the names of their owners and of their trades ascertained. The dates begin very early. In 1375 Simon Leggi kept a tavern in Lombard Street at the sign of the Raven. In 1446 the Cardinal's Cap was a tavern; also (in 1464) the Pope's Head—carved in stone over the entrance to Pope's Head Alley is a Pope's Head to-day. In 1541 the George also was a tavern. In 1560 the Ring and Ruby was the very apposite sign of a goldsmith who was also a banker, that is, he kept "running cashes," or current accounts for his customers, which was the habit of many goldsmiths and the beginning of banking. In 1550 the Shippe was a haberdasher's. In 1552 a bookseller traded at the sign of the Eagle, and in 1555, another bookseller at the Cradle; while 1586 saw a goldsmith at the Marmayd. In the reign of Bluff King Hal the Whyte Lyon was a goldsmith's sign, as previously the Three

Crowns—then a tavern—had been a mercer's, none other than that of Matthew Shore, the husband of the ill-fated Jane ; while the Grass-hopper, of which more to follow, appears to have been the sign of the Greshams from a very early period.

The trade carried on at a given shop or house might change, and frequently did, but more rarely the sign. At one period the Flower de Luce was the sign of a banker, at another of a mercer, which term had a much wider significance formerly, the mercer—derived from *Mercator*—being a merchant who generally imported and dealt in anything and everything rich and marketable that came his way. The Angel and Crown, which at one time was a goldsmith's sign, later became that of an apothecary ; the Three Tunns, once the sign of a banker, eventually found its proper status and became a tavern's ; while the Marmayd, from being the sign of a goldsmith, became that of a patent-medicine seller.

But as approaching 200 ancient signs have been traced and located in old Lombard Street and adjacent courts alone, any attempt at a complete recapitulation of the changes would be wearisome. It will, perhaps, be sufficient if we give some of the signs, with the known trades, in the briefest terms possible—viz. the Flying Horse (banker's sign) ; the Blackamoor's Head (goldsmith's) ; the Bible and Crown (book-seller's) ; the Hand in Glove (glover's) ; the Oak with Three Crowns—apparently a reminis-

cence of Boscobel (tavern); the Crown and Sceptre (goldsmith's); the Three Anchors (goldsmith's); the Castle (tavern); the Hare and Crown (woollen draper's); the Angel (banker's); the Turk's head (goldsmith's, also bookseller's); the Golden Anchor (goldsmith's); the Buck and Cock, afterwards the Phoenix (goldsmith's); the Queen's Arms (goldsmith's, also haberdasher's); the Hat and Arrow (vintner's); the White Swanne (goldsmith's); the Hen and Chickens (mercier's); the Fleece (draper's); the Artichoke (woollen draper's); the Queen's Head and Sun (bookseller's); the Black Boy (banker's); the Bellows and Ball (gold and silver laceman's); the Three Angels (banker's); the Angel and Golden Cross—possibly a reminiscence of Queen Eleanor (banker's).

Other Lombard Street or adjacent signs were the Anchor and Dove, the Blue Bell, the Rose and Crown, the Black Horse, the Plough (afterwards the Indian Queen), the Unicorn, which sign was in great favour with goldsmiths and chemists, and for much the same reason—viz. the great price at which so-called “unicorn's horn” sold as an antidote to poisons and cure for all sorts of ills (the horn being probably that of the narwhal—the sea-unicorn), so that it stood in value above gold, and almost ranked with pearls and rubies; the White Horse, the Royal Exchange, a representation of which may be seen above the entrance to Change Alley; the Fox, the Union, the Goat, the Vine, the

Sugar-loaf, afterwards the Haunch of Venison ; the Three Herrings and the Civet Cat (perfumer's) ; the Saw, and the Saw and Crown (instrument maker's) ; the Golden Cupp, the Golden Ball, the Golden Key (all goldsmiths') ; the Golden Lion, which a scoffer has declared was the old White Lion with a coat of yellow paint, and the Oxford Arms.

Of the whole of the signs mentioned, which are not nearly all, perhaps the Greshams' Grasshopper is the most famous. The Oxford Arms, or the Bible and Three Crowns, the sign of Thomas Guy, bookseller, and Founder of Guy's Hospital, should rank with it.

We crave pardon for an omission. Lloyd's Coffee House in Pope's Head Alley, where that great institution, " Lloyds," originated, appears first to have been known as the White Bear, and afterwards as the Pontack's Head, so named from a M. Pontac, a vineyard owner in France, whose son opened an eating-house in the Alley and put up his father's head as a sign, a filial action which probably helped to popularise French wines in England to the advantage of both countries. A reputed *menu* of Pontack's demands mention even if fictitious. It comprised birds'-nest soup, fatted snails, ambergris, frogs and forcemeat, and surprised chickens two hours out of the shell.

To return to the Grasshopper, under which sign Sir Thomas Gresham, merchant and goldsmith, founder of the first Royal Exchange, kept shop in Lombard Street. The sign sur-

mounts the third Royal Exchange to-day and shines in gold in Lombard Street prominent amongst the few hanging signs remaining. The story goes that the Grasshopper was so popular as a sign that the owner was obliged to advertise that the only original Grasshopper was that affixed to his shop, and proceeded to grant licences permitting others to hang out the Grasshopper sign and announce that *their* Grasshoppers were genuine descendants of the renowned and matchless Grasshopper of Mr. Blank of Blank Street, which story reads very like an early example of leg-pulling. It is the fact, however, that grasshoppers were worn about the person to bring good luck.

A very popular mercer's sign was that of the Three Kings of Cologne, for the reason that rich goods of many kinds besides silks were imported from Cologne, the kings, Gaspar, Balthazar, and Melchior, being the Magi who were guided by the Star in the East to Bethlehem ; and it has been suggested that the signs of the Seven Stars and the Half Moon may also have been derived from the Kings' armorial bearings. But with the origin of signs, or of some of them, for the whole would fill a large volume, we propose to deal later on.

As already mentioned, artisans in old Rome often indicated their trades by tools hung up outside their dwellings, as the carpenter by a chisel, or plane ; the grave-digger by a pickaxe, or spade, and so on—a simple means of announcement largely followed in old London amongst

shopkeepers, as the cutler by a knife, the glover by a hand, the hosier by a stocking, the tailor by a pair of scissors, etc., and we still have surviving the ironmonger's dust-pan, the grocer's tea-canister, the shoemaker's clog, or last, the china-dealer's tea-pot and the gold-beater's mallet.

Naturally there was considerable rivalry, not only amongst shopkeepers, but also tavern-keepers. The signs grew larger and larger, and the rods or poles that supported them longer, until those from opposite sides of the street often met in the middle of it. Many of the signs were suspended from an iron rod which projected from the front of the buildings, and when too long caused great inconvenience and some danger, for in 1718 a heavy sign in Bride's Lane, Fleet Street, pulled out the front of a house and killed four passers-by. In the reign of Charles II, however, an ordinance was issued limiting the length of the supporting poles in Chepe (Cheapside) to 7 feet, the penalty for exceeding that length being a fine of 40*d*. Not very onerous, one might imagine, until it is remembered that the price of a gallon of beer was 1½*d*., and that the fine to a tavern-keeper represented 27 gallons. When space permitted, the signs often were suspended from the centre of an ornamental arch, and generally the ironwork was decorative.

For all inns and taverns, signs were compulsory, and by a proclamation of Henry VIII, for the bagnios, or hot bath-houses on Bankside,

where the visitor might choose between the Cardinal's Cap, the Cross Keys, the Bell, or the Gun for his "stews," as those baths were named. As early as 1393 a Chelsea brewer was fined for not having a sign on his premises. All other signs appear to have been optional, the citizens of London having been granted the right by Charles I to hang out sign-boards "for the better finding out such citizens' dwellings, shops, arts, or occupations." In addition to the sign, tavern-keepers were compelled to exhibit a bush, and without this, nobody in the City of London was permitted to open one. Some of the bushes resembled brooms; some were just garlands of greenery, or a plain bough. At the famous Mermaid in Bread Street, which had passages to Cheapside and Friday Street, the bush consisted of three wreaths of foliage suspended one above another. Frequently it consisted of a single wreath with a jug attached. In place of the bush, some vintners appear to have adopted the Rose, which, during the Wars of the Roses, necessitated much changing of the colour of their signs.

A sign was considered as heritable property descending from father to son, but when a tavern-keeper lost his licence for some offence, he frequently lost his sign. Walter Walters, a tavern-keeper at the sign of the Crown in Cheapside, not only lost his sign, but also his head for jokingly saying that he would make his son heir to the Crown, which goes to prove that somebody in authority in the reign of

Edward IV was woefully lacking in humour. When a shopkeeper removed from one sign to another, he sometimes combined the two, as: "Peter Duncombe, who lived at the Naked Boy in Great Russell Street, has removed to the Naked Boy and Mitre near Sommerset House, Strand." In the *Little London Directory* for 1677, said to be the first number, very few of the shopkeepers advertising had signs, or, at least, they did not mention them; but the reverse was the case with the bankers, who, as goldsmiths that kept "running cashes," had just emerged into the aristocracy of trade. As Lombard Street may be said to have "swarmed" with goldsmiths, a very large number of the signs there of which we have been able to give particulars is thus accounted for.

It was in the reign of Charles II also that an ordinance was passed that in no street should a signboard hang over it, and that all signs should be fixed against the balconies, or some convenient part of the side of the buildings. Some time later, a beginning appears to have been made in Duke's Court, St. Martin's Lane, where the hanging signs were taken down and refixed as ordered by Statute. About 1768 this alteration became general, Commissioners having been appointed to see that it was done. With the signs went the sign-posts, the last streets to retain their hanging signs being Wood Street and Whitecross Street in the City, where they remained until 1773. It is recorded,

however, that Holywell Street, Strand, which exists no longer, kept its signs swinging until about 1845.

While the hanging signs were numerous in every street it was the custom of citizens requiring a forecast of the weather to listen to their sounds, much squealing being a portent of a downpour, for, as Gay says in his *Trivia*—

“ But when the swinging signs your ears offend,
With creaking noise, then rainy floods impend.”

Whether, when the noisy signs disappeared the citizens straightway purchased “weather-glasses,” we are unable to say.

The numbering of houses would appear to have begun about 1705, Prescott Street, Goodman's Fields, being said to have been the first to adopt the system. Much information concerning the origin of inn and tavern signs will be found in *The History of Signboards*, by Jacob Larwood and John C. Hotten, who mention the practice of hanging up their coats-of-arms outside their castles by feudal barons in mediæval times as intimations to wayfarers that hospitality awaited them within, and also to enable the latter to identify the lords of the castle for whose hospitality they were indebted. The keep appears to have been the place of lodging generally accorded to strangers, but food and drink were always supplied in plenty. Thus the barons and other nobles were the earliest innkeepers, and from

the most salient features of their coats-of-arms many of the inn and tavern signs were originally derived. Certainly many of the Old London signs came into existence in this manner. An industrious worthy in the reign of James I took the trouble to write down all the signs of that class that he could find between Whitehall and the Tower. The number is rather startling. Between Whitehall and Charing Cross he counted eight—the White Hart, Red Lion, Mairmayd, Three Tunns, Salutation, Graihound, Bell, and Golden Lyon. Within sight of Charing Cross were five more—the Garter, Crown, Bear and Ragged Staff, Angel, and King Harry's Head. From Charing Cross "towards the Cittie," that is, presumably by way of the Strand, Fleet Street, and Ludgate Hill, thirty-six more—another White Hart, the Eagle and Child, Helmet, Swanne, Bell, another King Harry's Head, Flower de Luce, another Angel, Holy Lambe (no doubt near the Temple), Bear and Harroe, Plough, Shippe, Black Bell, yet another King Harry's Head, Bull's Head, Golden Bull, another Flower de Luce, Red Lion, Horns, White Hors, Prince's Arms, Bell Savadge's In (of which more presently), John the Baptist, Talbot, Ship of Warre, Saint Dunstan, Hercules or Old Man Tavern, Mitar, another Three Tunns, and a Three Tunnes Tavern, another Graihound, another Mitar, and still another Three Tunnes, another King Harry's Head, once more Three Tunnes, and Three Cranes, the last named approaching the Tower, doubtless.

Such mention and enumeration of the signs of inns and taverns would appear to have been a form of recreation, for Taylor, the Water-poet, who kept tavern at the sign of the Poet's Head (his own, by the way), in Phoenix Alley, Long Acre, and got into trouble for hanging up a sign of the Mourning Crown after the execution of Charles I, indulged in the pastime largely; but as it is said that he published some eighty poetical works, his muse may have run riot amongst the taverns. At any rate, he recorded all the tavern signs he could find in the London of his day, which was about 250, as also all the inn and alehouse signs in ten adjacent counties, 686, or thereabouts.

Some idea of the popularity of the various signs may be gathered from a record made approaching a century ago. It is far too long for inclusion, but in London there were 31 Bells, 29 Black Horses, 52 Coach and Horses, 61 Crowns (actually 112, if taken in conjunction with some other object, as the Crown and Cushion), 32 Dukes of York, 34 Dukes of Wellington, 52 Georges, 31 Globes, 24 Green Men, 23 Lord Nelsons, 43 Princes of Wales, 49 Queen's Heads, 73 Red Lions, 53 Ships, 28 Two Brewers, 20 Wheat Sheafs, 63 White Harts, 44 White Horses, 25 White Lions, 35 White Swans, and so on through the entire gamut. Inn and tavern signs also afforded subjects for rhymesters, the following verses being part of a very long "poem" which indicates the various preferences in inns of the people:

“ The Gentry to the *King's Head*,
 The nobles to the *Crown*,
 The Knights unto the *Golden Fleece*,
 And to the *Plough* the Clown.

“ The Churchman to the *Mitre*,
 The Shepherd to the *Star*,
 The Gardener hies him to the *Rose*,
 To the *Drum* the Man of War.”

And certainly at least one versifier utilised them to describe his inamorata :

“ She's as light as the *Greyhound*, as fair as the *Angel*,
 Her looks than the *Mitre* more sanctified are,
 But she flies like the *Roebuck* and leaves me to range ill,
 Still looking to her as my true polar *Star*.—

With many more verses of the same character. The “Song of the Mail Coach Guard” is another example, of which one verse will show the quality :

“ At each inn on the road I a welcome could find,
 At the *Fleece* I'd my skin full of ale,
 The *Two Jolly Brewers* were just to my mind,
 At the *Dolphin* I drank like a whale.”

The very incongruous conjunction of objects in many of the signs afforded much “copy” for scribes, and it would appear that even Addison did not disdain to poke fun at them. Certainly there could not be much community of interest between the Whale and Crow, the Razor and Hen, the Lute and Tun, the Axe and Bottle, the Shovel and Boot, or the Leg and Stars, yet some of them are capable of an explanation. As frequently the signs were

nameless, the people gave them names of their own. The Axe and Bottle was, it is supposed, originally the Battle Axe ; the Leg and Stars may have been a popular name for the Order of the Garter ; the Shovel and Boot should be the Shovel and Boat, and so on. The Bull and Mouth is said to have been properly the Boulogne Mouth, from the mouth of Boulogne Harbour, but it is quite as likely to have been the Bowl and Mouth, for both were separately used as signs.

Another odd conjunction of names, the Bible and Swan, is said to have been a sign in honour of Luther ; but the Frying Pan and Drum, the Hog in Armour, or the Pig in Misery, as it was frequently called, the Bell and Neats' Tongues (ox-tongues), the Dog and Gridiron, the Three Nunnes and Hare, the Queen's Arms and Corncutter, the Lamb and Dolphin, and the Fox and Seven Stars are certainly difficult to explain, for, as a jocular writer remarked, some of them could never possibly meet except on a signboard.

Mispronunciation and misreading of the pictured signs led to some of the singular combinations, as *Pique et Carreau*, the sign of a gambling-house, which became the Pig and Carrot ; while the Blackamoor's Head and Woolpack, a sign at Pimlico, was vulgarly known as the Devil and Bag o' Nails. The sign of the Good Woman was merely jocular—the lady was always represented as without a head, therefore tongue-less. Sometimes the

conjunction of "Arms" in a sign was grotesque through the ignorance of the originator, as in the Chaff-cutter's Arms, the Angel Arms, Drovers' Arms, Diggers' Arms, Paragon Arms, Adam's Arms (a pewter pot and crossed tobacco-pipes), and many more.

Just as after Bosworth Field numbers of Roses changed colours, so the establishment of the Commonwealth led to many alterations in signs. Thus the Salutation of Our Lady, or the Salutation Tavern for short, became the Souldier and Citizen ; while the Catherine Wheel derived from St. Catherine of Alexandria, who was martyred on the wheel, became the Cat and Wheel.

The following additional origins and explanations may be of interest : The Bear and Ragged Staff, a very popular tavern sign, is derived from a crest of the Earls of Warwick ; the Eagle and Child from the Stanleys ; the Spread Eagle from the arms of the Miltons, amongst other sources. The Maiden Head is from the arms of the Mercers' Company, but the proviso—other sources—would apply, a remark it may be necessary to make to disarm criticism, so this should be understood as applying in many cases. The Three Compasses form part of the arms of the Carpenters' Company, the Globe and Compasses of the Joiners' ; while the Three Goats' Heads are from the Cordwainers' (the Shoemakers') ; the Three Cats, really Three Leopards' Heads, are from the Weavers', and the Green Man from the Distillers' ; the

Three Tuns, once perhaps the most popular of all signs, are derived from the Vintners', the Golden Cup from the Goldsmiths', the Ram and Teazle from the Clothworkers', the Hammer and Crown from the Blacksmiths', the White Horse from the white horse of the Saxons, also from that of Hanover.

One writer gives the following as the origin of the sign of the Bull, or, at least, of many of the Bulls—viz. Monastic houses with a brewery attached were accustomed to issue to such as desired to sell their ales a licence under the seal of the monastery, or religious order. The Latin word for seal being *bullā*, and the licences being written in Latin, the name of the seal in course of time became corrupted to Bull as indicating an inn licensed by a monastic order, just as the Papal "bull" is derived from the leaden seal—*bullā*—affixed to the documents. The same authority informs us that the crosses indicating quality also originated with the monkish brewers, it being their custom to mark the barrels containing their small beer with one cross, the medium with two crosses, and the strongest ale with three.

The Pindar of Wakefield, a Clerkenwell tavern sign, was of course derived from the ballad :

" In Wakefield town there lives a jolly Pindar,
In Wakefield all on the Green,"

the Pindar being the keeper of the pound for stray cattle. But there are many signs which

have been derived from ballads, as the Blind Beggar, from "The Blind Beggar of Bethnal Green"; the King and the Miller, Robin Hood, Guy of Warwick, the London Apprentice, and many more. From songs as distinct from ballads many other signs have originated, as the old English Gentleman, Jim Crow, the Old Rosin, from "Old Rosin the Bow," the Old House at Home, the Hearty Goodfellow, and scores of others.

The Marquis of Granby was a most popular sign, and remains so. At one time there were eighteen in London, and there are still six according to Kelly's Directory. It will be remembered that it was chosen by Dickens for Tony Weller's Inn, but few will identify the sign with that hero of the Seven Years' War, and capable cavalry leader, John Manners, who fought at Minden, and looked after the comfort of his men so well, and became so popular in consequence, that it has been said that his title—the Marquis of Granby—and soldierly figure have swung outside more London taverns than those of Nelson and Wellington.

In Chancery Lane the sign of the Old Parr's Head is said to have borne the following legend :

"Keep your head cool and your feet warm,
But a glass of good gin won't do you any harm."

Old Parr lived in ten reigns, died in his 152nd year, and is buried in Westminster Abbey. There are still three Old Parr's Heads in London

and one Parr's Head. Who was Pasqua Rosee? His head formerly swung as a sign in St. Michael's Alley, Cornhill, and he was the first to make and sell "coffee drink" in England (1652).

The Crown, with many combinations, has always been a most popular sign. The Three Crowns may be derived from the United Kingdoms of England, Scotland, and Ireland, or from the three Kings of Cologne; the Crown and Cushion represents the crown as carried before the King at his coronation; the Crown and Glove implies the glove flung down by the King's Champion at the same function; the Crown and Sceptre are part of the Royal Insignia; the Crown and Mitre signifies alliance with the Church; the Crown and Anchor is the badge of the Royal Navy; the Crown and Rasp, a curious sign which appertained to a manufacturer of snuff, owes its origin to the former custom of rasping the snuff from the dried root of the tobacco plant.

The Bull and Gate is said to have had an origin similar to that of the Bull and Mouth, that is, to have been derived from the gates of Boulogne, captured and carried away in the reign of Henry VIII. Another gate sign, the Golden Field Gate, is said to have been derived from the Field of the Cloth of Gold. But there are dozens of gate signs, some with the following motto:

"This gate hangs well to no man's sorrow,
Pay to-day, and trust to-morrow."

The name of one of the oldest taverns in the City, Ye Olde Dr. Butler's Head, in Mason's Avenue, Basinghall Street, is derived from Dr. Butler, Physician to James I. He invented a potent medicated ale of such virtues that Old Fuller described him as the "Æsculapius of our age." But there are many stories concerning Dr. Butler, who is said by some to have had his Doctor's degree conferred upon him by the monarch as a reward for bringing to his notice that same very excellent beer. Whatever the facts may be, that the quality of Ye Olde Dr. Butler's Ale is maintained to this day is easily capable of proof.

Of the Flying Horse, a very popular sign, or rather of the wine sold under one of the Pegasus signs, a poet has sung :

" If with water you fill up your glasses,
You'll never do anything wise,
For wine is the horse of Parnassus
Which hurries a bard to the skies."

Many inn and tavern signs were derived from Royal badges and supporters, as the Two Angels (Richard II) ; the Swan and Antelope (Henry IV) ; the Lion and Antelope (Henry V) ; the Two Antelopes (Henry VI) ; the Lion and Bull (Edward IV) ; the Two Boars (Richard III) ; the Lion and Dragon (Henry VIII), also Edward VI and Elizabeth) ; the Lion and Unicorn (James I), superseding the Welsh Dragon, which was the standard of Harold and

of Edward III at Crécy. The Two Boars of Richard Crookback were white; while those of the Duke of York were blue, so, after Bosworth, as was the case with the Roses, there was much changing of the colour of the Boars on the signs. The Lion Rampant appertained to Edwards III and IV; the Red Lion to John of Gaunt, the Rose and Crown to the Tudors; what we now know as the Prince of Wales's Feathers was borne by Stephen, Edward III, and the Black Prince. Originally there was but one feather, with the motto "*Hou moet Ich dien*" (Courage! I serve with you), which is said not to have been the motto of the Blind King of Bohemia, but adopted by the Black Prince in honour of his mother, Eleanor of Hainault.

The three golden balls of the pawnbroker are derived from the coat-of-arms of the Dukes of Medici; the Cross Keys from those of the Papal See. The Cock and Lion, formerly a very popular sign, is derived from a legend of a lion and a white cock, of which a version is still current in Yorkshire. The sign of the White Bear is said to have originated from a polar bear kept in the Tower by Henry III, and occasionally permitted to fish in the Thames. The Elephant and Castle is from the crest of the Cutlers' Company; the Fox and Goose, suggested by the old tale of Reynard the Fox, is said to be derived from the arms of the Fox-fields; the Cat and Kittens from pewter pots, pint pots being known as Cats and half pints

as Kittens, or so it is recorded. The old proverb "To bed with the lamb and up with the lark" gave rise to the tavern sign of the Lamb and Lark; the Mermaid is a supporter of the arms of the Fishmongers' Company; it is also a badge of the Byrons. The sign of the famous Boar's Head in Eastcheap, or of the tavern that succeeded it, may be seen in the Guildhall Museum; where the statue of William IV now stands at the top of King William Street was the site, but there was another Boar's Head on the Southwark side of London Bridge.

At one period signs of the Dog and Duck were exceedingly numerous, the origin being the favourite pastime of duck hunting with dogs. The amusement apparently consisted in watching the duck's efforts to escape by diving under the barriers of reeds liberally provided in the ponds; possibly the "sport" was increased by wagering on the dog or on the duck.

A common sign, which was that of a very famous hostelry in Milk Street and Lad Lane (now Gresham Street), the Swan with Two Necks would appear to be a misnomer, the explanation being as follows: The swans on the upper reaches of the Thames being respectively the property of the Crown, the Dyers' Company, and the Vintners' Company, it was the custom at the "Swan Upping," or marking, to mark those belonging to the Crown with five diamonds, the Dyers' with four bars and a nick, and the Vintners' with a V and two nicks.

Therefore the sign of the Swan with Two Necks should properly be the Swan with Two Nicks.

The Bell was, and remains, a very popular sign, due partly to the great enthusiasm for bell ringing in England. At the Bell in Southwark Chaucer's Pilgrims gathered; from the Bell in Carter Lane in the City the only letter to Shakespeare that is known to exist was addressed. The Bell Savage Inn, previously referred to, was an old and famous hostelry, round the name of which many legends have gathered, as that of the beautiful Savage—La Belle Sauvage—and several others equally, we fear, wide of the facts, for we learn that in the time of Henry VI the inn was known as Savage's Inn, otherwise the Bell on the Hoop, a sign very frequently made use of, but the origin of which we have been unable to ascertain. So, it would appear, fades away the legend of the savage beauty, for if our authority may be relied upon, the inn was commonly known as Savage's Bell on the Hoop, presumably Bell Savage for short. There is some evidence that at one time the sign was a printer's, or that printing was carried on there, for *The Delights of the Bottle, or the Compleat Vintner*, was printed at the Bell Savage in 1721.

But perforce we must bring this account of Old London Signs to an end, not because the signs are exhausted, or even the most interesting of them, for the subject has really only been sampled, so to say, but for reasons of space, which have constrained us to omit all reference

to a vast number. We will conclude, therefore, with a brief mention of the sign-painters.

The headquarters of the painters of signs during a long period would appear to have been Hoop Alley in Shoe Lane, Fleet Street. Many of the most artistic signs were the work of coach-painters long apprenticed to the Art. There is a record of the receipt by one of them of the very large sum of £500 for a Shakespeare sign which long hung in Russell Street, Drury Lane. But the most famous painters have not disdained to exercise their brushes on signs, amongst them, to mention only a few, Holbein, Hogarth, Cipriani, Corregio, Watteau, George Morland (who painted many), David Cox, and Millais.

CHAPTER IV

STREET CRIES AND RHYMES OF OLD LONDON

WHEN EST-CHEPE (Eastcheap) and WEST-CHEPE (Cheapside) were the chief markets, or shopping-places, when, instead of broad expanses of plate-glass, the shop-fronts were largely open shanties, or stalls, before or beside which stood the lusty 'prentices shouting "What d'ye lack?—What d'ye lack?" to draw attention to their masters' wares, it followed that the itinerant vendors—the old-time "costard-mongers," not only had great opportunities, but were a necessity. How else could the thrifty housewife obtain her supplies except by trudging to the nearest "chepe"?

The lady shopper of to-day who drives up to a Regent Street or Oxford Street Emporium in her expensive car can only have the smallest conception of the muddy roadways and sidewalks, the latter more often non-existent, and the lack of means of conveyance of the past. The street criers of the present are often considered a nuisance. Formerly they were a great boon. One means they had of making known their commodities—their voices, and

they made good use of them. Some sang of their wares and the merits of them; some "cried" or shouted them; we fear that many bawled them hideously. But what would you? Only a few of the old-time itinerants, if they could come back to bawl, or shout, or sing their goods, as the spirit moved them, would be understood, and probably most of those that were would be listened to with amazement—the cheapness of the commodities offered would not be credited.

Where shall we begin? There is quite a literature on the subject, and it is puzzling to decide. With the flowers—the earth-angels? Why not? For some of the flower "cries" have been voiced down from the past and are as pleasing now as ever. These are the musical ones, almost invariably the musical ones: "Six bunches a penny, sweet blooming lavender!" To which some wretched versifier has most cruelly appended a doggerel rhyme:

"Just put one bundle to your nose,
What rose can this excel?
Throw it among your finest clothes,
Most grateful they will smell."

Which may be verse, but certainly is not poetry. Let us take the taste of it away with a possibly old, possibly modern version of the lavender "cry," which has been, we believe, set to music by more than one famous composer: "Who'll buy my sweet, sweet lavender? Sixteen branches for a penny!" which might be thought

to indicate that lavender is not dearer to-day than formerly, until one reflects that there is a great difference in quantity between sixteen branches, or sprigs, and six "market bunches."

From lavender to primroses. Why not, again?

"Sweet primroses! Four bunches a penny, primroses!" is an old "cry," as also: "Two bundles a penny, primroses—two bundles a penny!" And it is certain that whether four bunches or two bundles were offered to-day for a penny, the primrose seller's basket would soon be emptied.

"Violets! sweet-smelling violets, who'll buy?"—"Sweet violets, a penny a bunch!" Apparently the price of violets has not altered. "Come, buy my fine myrtles and roses!" is a "cry" that would be as well understood in this present year of grace as in old-time London, although we fancy myrtles would be considered too old-fashioned for the modern flower-girl. "Flowers, a penny a bunch!" Judging by a picture illustrating this "cry," the bunch was as large as a cabbage. "Fresh and sweet—flowers!" is another old "cry." "Rosemary Baie!" is a sweet-sounding "cry" which might possibly require a little explanation. Sprigs of rosemary and bay-leaves were much used for flavouring, but there is a certain danger in guess-work. Spelt differently, the "cry" might mean "Rosemary, buy!" "Will you buy a Beau-pot?" also may need elucidation. A "Beau-pot" was a posy, or nosegay

THE CRIES OF LONDON.

*Come buy my Primrose,
Two Bunches a Penny*



Oats or Scullers, your Honor



Old Chairs to mend



*True Native Oysters
Three a Penny*



SOME OLD LONDON CRIES.

comprising flowers and sweet-smelling herbs, as carnations, violets, wall-flowers, sweet-williams, roses, sweetbriar, rosemary, balm, etc. But to quote the versifier :

“ Come, buy my fine roses, my myrtles and stocks,
My sweet-smelling balsams and close-growing box ! ”

Sweetbriar appears often to have been “ cried ” separately, as “ Come, buy my sweetbriar ! ” and “ Dainty sweetbriar ! ” attest. As also doth the versifier :

“ Sweetbriar this girl on one side holds,
And flowers in the other basket ;
And for the price—she that unfolds
To anyone who’ll ask it.”

That a great trade was done in herbs and simples is attested by one of the *Roxburgh Ballads* :

“ Here’s fine rosemary, sage and thyme—
Come, buy my ground ivy !
Here’s fetherfew, gilliflowers and rue—
Come buy my knotted marjoram, Ho !
Here’s lavender for your clothes,
Here’s parsley and winter savory
And heartsease which all do choose ;
Here’s balm and hissop and cinquefoil—
All fine herbs it is well known ! ”

And so on, with mention of pennyroyal, marigolds, nettletops, watercresses, wormwood, mugwort, southernwood, dandelion, horseleek, dragon’s tongue, horehound—all on sale in the streets of old London. Amongst other herbs “ cried ” were “ scurvy grass ” (a plant allied

to the horse-radish with an acrid taste), bitter-sweet, red valerian, cough-grass (of which we must plead complete ignorance), hedge-mustard, etc. As to the prices asked for these simples we are able to supply a little evidence :

“ Rue, sage and mint—a farthing a bunch ! ”

“ Southernwood, that’s very good—a ha’penny ! ”

Having devoted all the space available to flowers and herbs, we pass to the next in natural order, if not in importance—fruits, of which cherries, by the number of different “ cries,” should take precedence : “ Sixpence a pound, Fair Cherries ! ” “ Round and sound, fi’pence a pound, Duke Cherries ! ” “ Fine Biggaroon Cherries ! ” “ Cherries, O !—Ripe Cherries, O ! ” “ Black and White Heart Cherries, two-pence a pound. Full weight, all round and sound ! ” “ Fine ripe Duke Cherries, a ha’penny a stick, and a penny a stick, ripe Duke Cherries ! ” “ Cherries ripe, ripe, ripe, Cherrie ripe ! ” “ Cherries in the ryse ! ” As to some of which “ cries ” a further word or two of explanation may not be amiss. The “ biggaroon ” was the large “ white-heart ” cherry. The full name of the Duke cherry was “ May Duke.” Sticks of cherries were bunches of the fruit tied to sticks “ all up and down ” them. Cherries in the “ ryse ” were cherries on the bough, or perhaps supposed to be on the bough, or fresh picked from the bough.

After cherries, strawberries, which were very plentiful in old London : “ Strabery Rype ! ”

"I ha' rype Straberries!" "Strawberryes', scarlet Strawberryes!" Unfortunately we have been unable to find any record of the old-time prices. After strawberries, come apples and pears, which were sold both fresh and cooked, as the following "cries" vouch for: "Hott baked Wardens, hott!" "Any bakeing pears?" "Pippyns!" "Piepin pys!" "Payres fyn!" "Hot codlinges, hot!" "Rosted pippins, piping hot!" "Pippins fyn!" "Hot pippin pyes!" "Wardens," it may be explained, were a variety of pear. The "costard," from which costermonger is derived, was a fat, round apple shaped like a human head, whence its name. In Gay's *Trivia* will be found the melancholy tale of an unfortunate apple-girl who, in pursuit of custom, fell through the ice of the frozen Thames. We have only space for a few lines:

"The cracking crystal yields; she sinks, she dies,
Her head, chopt off from her lost shoulders, flies;
'Pippins!' she cry'd; but death her voice confounds;
And 'pip—pip—pip!' along the ice resounds."

Truly must there have been floes and icebergs in the Thames in Gay's day! "Oranges and Lemons, say the bells of St. Clemen's!" So the versifier, but one of the first of these "cries," we came across put the lemons first: "Fair lemons and oranges!" "Fine Sevil oranges, fine lemmans, fine! Round, sound and tender, inside and rine!" (rind). Nell Gwynn—pretty Nelly—must have had a "cry" when she sold oranges in Drury Lane Theatre,

but it does not appear to have been voiced down. However, a certain Doctor Randal—self-styled—invented many orange “cries” which have come down to us. To his fruit he prefixed as a description the name of anything important that was going on in the town, of which “Oratorio Oranges!” was a resounding example. “Fine China oranges!” was a well known “cry.” It was a very sweet orange, originally supposed to have come from China, and probably the same as the present “mandarin.” That plenty of other fruits were sold in the streets besides those we have mentioned, the following “cries” bear witness: “Buy any prunes?” “Buy some figs?” “Rype damsons!” “Buy any reasons?” (raisins). “Fyn pomgranats!” “Ripe Turkey figs!” Nor were nuts wanting to the dessert, as “Ripe chesnuds!” “Rype walnuts!” “Warnuts, twenty a penny!” “Barcelona philberts!” “Jaw work, up and under jaw work, a whole pot for a ha’penny—HAZEL NUTS!”

In number, unless exceeded by the fishes, we think the old vegetable “cries” must take first place. They were legion: “White unions! White St. Thomas unions!” (onions). “White young unyons!” It is really wonderful how fond the street criers were of prefixing the word white to their commodities, and without much regard to the actual colour! “Buy my four ropes of hard Onyons!” “Radishes, or Letis!” “I ha’ whyt radish, whyt! Two

bunches a penny!" "Hard lettice, white young unyons!" "White radish, white young lettis, white young lettis, white!" "Whyt scalions!" (a variety of onion). "Whyt carrots, whyt!" "Buy any passnips?" "Buy my Harttichokes, mistris?" "I ha' rocke sampier!" (samphire, a cliff-growing herb, used for pickles and salads). "I ha' ripe cowcumber—ripe cowcumber!" "Delicate cowcubmers to pickle!" "Buy any cucumber?" "Fyn potatos, Fyn!" "Cabeches!" (cabbages) "Ripe Speregas!" (asparagus). "Turneps and carrots, Ho!" But heed the versifier:

"With mutton we nice turnips eat, Beef and carrots
 never cloy,
 Cabbage comes up with summer meat, With winter
 nice Savoy."

In the season the demand for what we now universally name "green peas" was enormous and the sale to correspond. The streets of old London echoed and re-echoed: "Fresh gathered peas—Young Hastings!" the word Hastings being variously pronounced, as Hastens, Hasteds, or Hastins, all meaning peas that had ripened early. If we may hazard a surmise, the origin of the word might be "hastened," or forced. They were a dwarf variety and the first on the market. "Brave Windsor beans!" is another old "cry" that is rather puzzling. Why brave? Dare we risk another guess? Might not "brave" be

a variant of "bold"—fine and large? Certainly "bold" is much used in that sense in Mincing Lane to-day, especially, we believe, with regard to coffee and cocoa berries. Few indications of the prices are available, but here is one: "A whole market-hand for a ha'penny—young radishes!"

There was no lack of spices and condiments: "Buy any pompcons?" (possibly peppercorns). "Piper and saforne!" (Pepper and saffron). "Worcestershyr Salt, Whyt!"

From time out of mind Billingsgate, or Belyn's Gate, has been a great fish-mart, or landing-place, and London's Old City must always have been well supplied. Like the vegetables, the fish and shell-fish "cries" are legion: "Buy my dish of Great Eeles?" "Crab, crab, any crab?" "Fresh oysters, a penny a lot!" (One wonders how many constituted a "lot.") "Twelvepence a peck, Oysters!" "Welflett (Wall-Fleet) Oysters!" "Four for sixpence—mackrell!" "Buy all my soales!" "Buy all my smelts!" "Shrimps like prawns, a ha'penny a pot!" "Lily Whyt mussells, penny a quart!" "Penny a plateful, sprats!" "Large silver eeles, a groat a pound, live eeles!" "Mussels new, new cockles, osters!" "Lily whyt mussells!" "Buy any shrimps?" "Buy a dish a' flounders?" "New Hadog!" (haddock). "New sprats, new!" "Quicke paravinkells, quicke, quicke!" (alive). "New cod, new!" "Whyting, maids, whyting!" But listen to the versifier:

“ Not the Severn’s famed stream
 Could produce better fish,
 Sweet and fresh as new cream,
 And what more could you wish ? ”

Or to this one :

“ Any muscles, lily white,
 Herrings, sprats, or place,
 Or cockells for delight ?
 Any Welflett Oysters ? ”

Of foods, cooked and uncooked, “ cried ” in the streets of Old London there was no lack, as is well attested: “ I ha’ fresh cheese and cream ! ” “ Hot grey pease an’ a suck o’ bacon ! ” (which last-mentioned delicacy was made fast to a string, lest it be swallowed). “ Will you buy any milk to-day ? ” “ Hot fine oat-cakes, hot ! ” “ Who buys my sausages, sausages fine ? ” “ Good sausages ! ” “ Hote mutton poys ! ” “ Hote podding poys ! ” “ Hote eele poys ! ” “ Buy my Dutch biskets ? ” “ Maribones, mayds, maribones ! ” (marrow-bones). “ Rybbes o’ beef ? ” “ Hot pease-cods ! ” “ Bred an’ meat ? ” “ Buns, rare buns ! ” “ Dumplin’s, Ho ! ” “ Hog’s puddin’s ! ” “ Bolognia sausages ! ” “ Hollo-way cheese cakes ! ” “ Any tripe, or neat’s foot, or calf’s foot, or trotters, ho ? ” “ Buy my rumps and burrs ? ” (which were the “ makings ” of a very cheap dish, a “ rump ” being the thick part of a fresh ox-hide where the tail joins, and the “ burr ” the inside of the ears). “ Buy a live goose ? ” (the purchaser having the right of choice from a flock fresh

driven in on the day). "Who's for a mutton pie, or an eele pie?" "Sheep's trotters, Ho!" "Nice Yorkshire cakes!" "New Yorkshire muffins?" "Hot spiced ginger-bread, all hot, nice, smoaking hot!" Perhaps the most famous of spiced gingerbread sellers was a gentleman known as "Tiddy Diddy Doll," from his habit of concluding his voluminous "patter" with those words. This person always dressed in the finest clothes, and the following is a sample of the "patter" referred to:

"Mary, Mary, where are you *now*, Mary?"

"I live two steps underground, with a wiscom riscom, and why not. Walk in, ladies and gentlemen. My shop is on the second floor backwards, with a brass knocker at the door. Here's your nice gingerbread, your spiced gingerbread, which will melt in your mouth like a red-hot brickbat, and rumble in your inside like Punch in his wheelbarrow. Tiddy Diddy Doll, lol, lol, lol!"

Not many of the "cries" were humorous, or intended to be, but here is one: "New born eggs, eight a groat. Crack 'em and try 'em!" Whether the invitation was ever acted upon we know not. A "cry" that would certainly make the housewife of to-day envious was: "Young chicken! Five for a shilling!" Yes, chickens were cheap. When the Princess Elizabeth was living at Hatfield she made the following entry in her Housekeeping Book: "To the pore woman that brought six chickens and two capons—5s." "Curds and whey"

were sold in the streets and vast quantities of "Hot pudding" at "a ha'penny a slab!" As to which, listen to the versifier:

"Who wants some puddin' nice an' hot?
'Tis now the time to try it,
Just taken from the smoking pot,
And taste before you buy it."

Contrasting with all this wealth of eatables and the "cries" which proclaimed their merits were the mournful wails of those who begged food for the prisoners in Newgate, who otherwise would have starved:

"Some broken bread and meate for the poore pris'ners! For the Lord's sake, pittie the poore!" "Bread—and—meate—bread—and—meate. For the tender mercy of God to Poore pris'ners of Newgate. Four score and ten poore pris'ners!" "Here lies a company of very poore women in the dark dungeon. Pittie the poore women in the dark dungeon. Remember the poore Prisoners!"

But it is in the realm of household requisites, utensils, and the like, and the repair of them, that the Street Cries of Old London may be found most interesting. Occasionally they are somewhat puzzling. In Rare Ben Jonson's *Bartholomew Fair* will be found one that has given rise to considerable controversy. It is: "Buy a mouse-trap, a mouse-trap, or a tormentor for a flea!" There are variants, as: "Buy a very fine mouse-trap, or a tormentor for your fleas?" the great question being:

“What was, or is, a tormentor for a flea?” We know on the best authority available that it was a “back-scratcher,” shaped like a small hand, with fingers crooked. But how did it get its name? If we may be permitted another surmise, we might suggest that the original name of the instrument was “Torment preventer,” called “tormentor” for short. True, “torment” may be considered rather a strong word to describe the irritation set up by even the liveliest flea, but an old lady of our acquaintance invariably used the word “terrified” instead of “irritated” in just that particular case. So why not “torment”?

“Ells or yeards? By [buy] yeard or ell?” of course referred to the measures so named, both of which were in use. Before the introduction of pointed slips of wood tipped with brimstone, which were the earliest matches, everybody used the flint and steel, of which there were many “cries.” “All fire and no smoke, a very good flint or a very good steele? D’ye want a good flint or steele?” “Buy a steele, or a tinder-box?” was a variant. Of the “cry” “Buy a hone or a whetston’, or a markin’ ston’?” only the last may call for explanation. They were either red or black, and used for marking clothes, sheets, or other linen. The red “markin’ ston’” was frequently used to mark “Stop Thief” on the bed-coverings in cheap lodging-houses. “Have you any work for a tinker?” was a famous “cry” with many variants. “Have you any brass

pots, iron pots, kettles, skillets, or a frying pan to mend ? ”

“ Have you any work for a tinker, mistriss ?

Old brass, old pots, or kettles ?

I'll mend them all with a tink, terry, tink,

And never hurt your mettles ” (metals).

“ Have you any work for a tink, mistriss ? ” was probably the “ cry ” of John Bunyan. Think of it ! “ Work for a cooper ! Any work for a cooper ? ” was the “ cry ” of the mender of barrels, pails, or what not. “ Have you any chairs to mend ? ” has been made into a nursery rhyme, as everybody knows :

“ Old chairs to mend, old chairs to mend,

If I'd as much money as I could spend,

I never would cry — ‘ old chairs to mend. ’ ”

“ I ha' screens if you desier To keep yr Butey from the Fire ” as a “ cry ” is not yet out-of-date, but that is not so with “ Bandestrings or hankercher buttons ? ” of whose use we can only guess at. “ Buy a broom !—Buy a broom ! ” is a “ cry ” on which the versifiers have run riot.

“ New brooms, green brooms, will you buy any ?

Come, maydens, come quickly, let me take a peny ?

My brooms are not steeped,

But very well bound,

My brooms are not crooked,

But smooth cut and round ;

I wish it would please you

To buy of my broome,

Then would it well ease me,

If market were done.”

Brooms of the sort that to-day we call besoms were bartered for old shoes or boots, or for almost any article. "Old shoes or boots, will you buy some brooms?" "Brooms for old shoes, pouch-rings, boots and buskins?" But hear the versifier:

"Come buy some brooms, come buy of me,
Birch, heath, and green, none better be,
The staves are straight, and all bound sure,
Come, maids, buy brooms will still endure!"

Quill pens and ink were sold in the streets by men who carried on their backs a small cask of ink and at their belts a funnel and a measure. "Fine Writing Ink!" "Pens of the best!"

"Buy pens, pens, pens, pens of the best,
Excellent pens of the least,
Come buy good ink as black as jet,
A varnish like gloss on your writing 'twill set!"

But in writing of the vendor of soap (it was not called soap, by the way) the versifier really let himself go:

"Buy fine washing balls, buy a ball,
Cheaper and dearer, great and small,
For scouring none do them excel;
Their odour senteth [scenteth] passing well;
Come buy rare balls and trial make,
Spots out of clothes they quickly take!"

Nor did he spare the street vendor of blacking:

"Buy black! saith the blacking-man,
The best that e'er was seen,
'Tis goode for poore citzens
To make their shoes to shine!"

Finsbury Square was the great gathering-place of the shoeblacks, but "Shine, sir?" was apparently unknown as an invitation.

"Japan your shoes, master?" appears to have been the correct "cry." "Buy a hair-line, or a line for Jacke?" seems to refer to fishing tackle; but what can be the connection between a brush and a table book? The "cry" "Buy a bresh or a table book?" seems a little incongruous. A question we have had to ask ourselves is—Were there chiropodists in the streets of old London? If not, what is the meaning of "Any cornes to picke?" "New River water, free of sludge," however, needs no explanation. "A fine tie or a fine bob, sir?" was a common "cry" when everybody, old and young, wore a wig, and the provision of one annually was commonly stipulated for in apprentices' indentures.

"Bucks, jemmies, coxcombs, bloods and beaux, the lawyer, the divine, Each to his reverend tonsor goes to purchase wigs so fine."

To-day's amazing variety of toys for children was lacking from the streets of old London, still, toys were not entirely wanting: "Buy a doll, mistress?" "'Ere's your toys for girls and boys!" "Buy my windmills for a ha'-penny apiece?" "Young lambs to sell!" is another old "cry" which has found its way to the nursery. A very curious "cry" was that of the vendor of hobby-horses, or, rather, the semblance of a horse's head attached to a stick for children to straddle. It was "Troope

every one ! ” The man blew a trumpet between his shouts, and the “ cry ” may have been an invitation to the children to troop up and buy. At all times there was a great demand for and sale of turnery of every description, and the versifier certainly has not omitted to mention the fact :

“ All cleanly folk must like my ware,
 For wood so sweet and clean ;
 Time was when platters serv'd Lord Mayor,
 And as I've heard, a Queen.
 My honest friend, will you buy a bowl,
 A skimmer, or a platter ?
 Come buy of me a rolling pin,
 Or spoon to beat your batter ? ”

For reasons of space numerous other “ cries ” can only receive the merest mention. Of these are : “ Ha' ye any wood to cleave ? ” “ Buy a hasock for your pew ? ” “ Buy a fine toasting-fork, or a spice-grater ? ” “ Who buys my roasting-jacks ? ” (to turn meat before the fire). “ Come, glasses, glasses, fine glasses, buy ! ” “ Any olde shoes, boots, or hats ? ” “ Any olde dublets ? ” “ Any old sattin, taffetty, or velvet ? ” Much more sparing of his breath is the “ Ole Clo ” man of to-day. “ Any coonie [rabbit] skins ? ” “ Buy a new love-song, only a ha'penny a'piece ? ” “ Songs, three yards a penny ! ” “ Buy a merry new song ? ” “ Ye maidens and men, come for what ye lack, And buy the fair ballads I ha' in my pack ? ” “ Sweep, ho ! ” “ Any brick-dust to-day, a penny a quart ? ” (brick-dust was

used for cleaning knives and forks, as Bath brick is now). Pins were sold in sheets, that is, stuck in rows on sheets of paper. There were numerous "cries": "Three rows a penny, pins!" "Pins of the Maker!" "Pretty mayds, pretty pins, pretty women!" "Any letters for the post?" "Buy an Almanake?" "Anye olde iron take money for?" "Anye olde bellows?" "Buy a candlestick?" "Buy any bottens?" "Buy a case for a hat?" "Buy a fine singing bird?" "Buy a linnet or a goldfinch?" "Buy anye russes?" (probably rushes) "Ryster grene?" (green rushes for floor covering). To which may be added: Tape, blew starch, clove water and stomock water, door mattes, sealing wax and wafers, small cole, mapps (mops), vinegar, knives, combs, and ink-horns, London's Gazette! But the list seems endless. Of course "Knives and cissers to grind!" must not be omitted, nor the various "cries" of the watchman, which should end this chapter fittingly:

"Lanthorne and a whole candell light!
Hang out your lights here!" (No candle-ends were permitted). "A light here, mayds, hang out your light, And see your horns [horn lanterns] be clean and bright, That so your candell clear may shine, Continuing from six to nine!"

"Give eare to the clocke!
Beware of your locke,
Your fire and your light,
And God give you good night,
One o'clock!"

There are many versions, but the following must be the last :

“ Mayds in your smocks,
Looke well to youre lockes,
Your fire and your light,
And God gi’ ye goode nighte !
Past one o’clocke an’ a fine morning ! ”

CHAPTER V

DIVERSIONS OF OLD LONDON

SPORTS and pastimes played their parts in the lives of the citizens of Old London, and many of the records make amusing reading. In Strype's *Stow*, ed. 1720, we find a very comprehensive list of the diversions of that period. *Stow* says: "The modern sports of the citizens, . . . are cock-fighting, bowling upon greens, playing at tables, or back-gammon, cards, dice, and billiards; also musical entertainments, dancing, masks, balls, stage-plays, and club-meetings in the evenings; they sometimes ride out on horseback, and hunt with the Lord Mayor's pack of dogs when the common hunt goes out. The lower classes divert themselves at foot-ball, wrestling, cudgels, nine-pins, shovelboard, cricket, stow-ball, ringing of bells, quoits, pitching the bar, bull and bear baitings, and throwing at cocks."

A later historian, *Maitland*, adds the following: "Sailing, rowing, swimming, and fishing in the river *Thames*, horse and foot races, leaping, archery, bowling in alleys, and skittles, tennice, chess and draughts; and in the winter, skating, sliding, and shooting."

As far back as the twelfth century, according to Strutt, among the popular amusements was "casting of stones, darts, and other missive weapons. Bars of wood and iron were also used for the same purpose," and the attention of the people was so much engaged by this exercise that they neglected the practice of archery, which was the cause of an edict being passed in the reign of Edward III, prohibiting the pastimes of throwing stones, wood, and iron, and advocating (for which read compelling) the use of the long-bow upon all convenient occasions.

Most of the early monarchs and nobles were fond of hawking, and maintained their mews and staff of falconers. Jousts and tournaments were of course also for the nobles, and were often held in Cheapside, near Bow Church, as well as at Smithfield and Whitehall.

Hunting and horse-racing were very popular. An early mention of the latter sport in London is by Fitzstephen, who lived in the reign of Henry II. He tells us that Smithfield was the "place of sale for hackneys and charging steeds, and there was a sort of race-course where they were matched against each other to prove their excellency." W. H. Pyne says that here (at Smithfield) boys were set on horse-back and rode races. Steeple-hunting, which was termed "the wild-goose chace," was succeeded by the sport of racing upon a course. These races were called "bell-courses."

In the reign of James I regular prizes were run for in various parts of England, but

with "*éclat*" in Yorkshire, and at Croydon and Enfield. Hyde Park also had its race-course.

Archery was greatly practised as a game. Stow says that before his time it "had been customary at Bartholomew-tide, for the Lord Mayor, with the sheriffs and aldermen, to go into the fields at Finsbury where the citizens were assembled, and shoot at the standard with broad and flight arrows."

Duck-hunting was also a favourite amusement of the citizens, but generally practised in the summer only.

A very popular amusement, and not only of the ordinary citizens, was attending foot-races. Pepys, writing in 1660, says: "Went with Mr. Moore and Creed to Hyde Park by coach, and saw a fine foot-race three times round the Park between an Irishman and Crew, that was once my Lord Claypoole's footman." Again, in July 1663, he writes: "The town talk this day is of nothing but the great foot-race on Banstead Downes, between Lee, the Duke of Richmond's footman, and a tiler, a famous runner. And Lee hath beat him; though the king and the Duke of York and all men almost did bet three or four to one upon the tiler's head."

In 1712 the Duke of Grafton backed his running footman, the fleetest in the world, against the running footman of the Lord Cholmondeley, who was a better runner than he. The match was run in Hyde Park for 500 guineas.

In the art of wrestling the citizens of Old London were very expert, and annually upon St. James's Day they were accustomed to make public trials of their skill. Stow says: "In the month of August, about the feast of St. Bartholomew, there were divers days spent in wrestling."

Another popular pastime was skating. Ancient bone skates or runners are exhibited at the Guildhall and British Museums. Evelyn records in 1662: "Having seen the strange and wonderful dexterity of the sliders on the new canal in St. James's Park, performed before their Majesties by divers gentlemen, and others with Scheetes after the manner of the Hollanders, with what swiftnesse they passe, how suddainely they stop in full carriere upon the ice! I went home by water, but not without exceeding difficulties, the Thames being frozen, greate flakes of ice incompassing our boate."

Of the very popular entertainment of cock-fighting Pepys writes in 1663: "I did go to Shoe Lane to see a cock-fight at a new pit there . . . But, Lord, to see the strange variety of people—from Parliament man . . . to the poorest 'prentices, bakers, brewers, butchers, draymen, and what not—and all these fellows one with another in swearing, cursing and betting . . . I soon had enough of it, it being strange to observe the nature of these poor creatures, how they will fight till they drop down dead upon the table and strike after they are ready to give up the ghost, not offering to

run away when they are weary or wounded past doing further, whereas, when a dunghill brood comes, he will, after a sharp stroke that pricks him, run off the stage, and then they wring off his neck without more ado. Whereas the other they preserve, though their eyes be both out, for breed only of a true cock of the game. . . . One thing more, it is strange to see how people of this poor rank, that look as if they had not bread to put in their mouths, shall bet three or four pounds at one bet and lose it, and yet bet as much the next battle, . . . so that one of them will lose £10 or £20 at a meeting."

In 1835 the law stepped in and banned the whole institution of cock-fighting.

May-games, mumming, morris-dances, etc., also had their observance, but even these innocent pastimes had detractors, for by an ordinance of the Long Parliament, in 1644, all the London may-poles were ordered to be taken down and the games suppressed. The restoration of Charles II, however, was the signal for their reinstallation.

Of all places of amusement in olden times perhaps the most frequented was Bartholomew Fair, which began as a cloth-market with a grant from Henry I to a monk who had formerly been his Jester. It was that jester, the famous Rayer, or Rahere, who founded the priory of St. Bartholomew, now St. Bartholomew's Hospital. Appended are some extracts from old placards and bills descriptive of the doings at this popular resort.

“BARTHOLOMEW FAIRE

or

VARIETY OF FANCIES, WHERE YOU MAY FIND
A FAIRE OF WARES, AND ALL TO PLEASE YOUR
MIND.

With

THE SEVERALL ENORMITYES AND MISDE-
MEANOURS, WHICH ARE THERE SEENE AND
ACTED.

“Bartholomew Fair begins on the 24th day of August, and is of so vast an extent that it is contained in no less than four several parishes, namely, Christ Church, Great and Little St. Bartholomew’s and Saint Sepulchre. . . . Here a Knave in a Fool’s coat, with a trumpet sounding invites you . . . to see his puppets ; there a Rogue like a Wild Woodman, or in antick shape like an Incubus, desires your company to see his motion ; on the other side Hocus Pocus with three yards of tape or ribbon in his hand, showing his art of Legerdemain. . . . Amongst these you shall see a gray goose-cap (as wise as the rest), with a What do you lack ? in his mouth, stand in his booth shaking a rattle, or scraping on a fiddle, with which children are so taken, that they presently cry out for these fopperies . . . Here there are also your gamesters in action, some turning of a whimsey, others throwing for pewter, who can quickly dissolve a round shilling into a three-half-penny saucer . . . yet better may a man



BARTHOLOMEW FAIR.

fare . . . in the Pig market, alias Pasty nook or Pie Corner, where Pigs are all hours of the day on the stalls piping hot, and would cry, (if they could speak) Come eat me ; but they are . . . dear, and the reckonings for them are . . . faucy.

“ Now farewell to the Fair, you who are wise,
Preserve your Purses, whilst you please your eyes.’

By every thief living in London, Bartholomew Fair was regarded as an annual performance for his benefit.

The following is from a placard issued in Queen Anne’s day :

“ By Her Majesty’s Permission. This is to give notice to all Gentlemen, Ladies, and others, that at the Hospital Gate in Smithfield during the time of Bartholomew Fair, is to be seen a large Buckinghamshire Hog, about ten feet long, thirteen hands high, above seven foot and a half round the Body ; also five feet round the neck, and eighteen inches round the fore leg, above the Joynt.

“ Likewise a Colt, about five months old, that was foal’d without any fore legs, and walks upright at the word of Command on his two hind legs. These two strange and wonderful Creatures are to be seen at any time of the day without loss of time.

“ Vivat Regina.”

A famous person in the fair in her day was the Fire-proof Lady, Madam Giradelli. This lady put melted lead into her mouth, and spat

it out marked with her teeth, passed red-hot iron over her body and limbs, her tongue and her hair, thrust her arm into fire, and washed her hands, not only in boiling lead, but also in boiling oil and aquafortis.

From an undated placard we learn that at the Fair—"You will see a wonderful girl of ten years of age walk up a sloping rope driving a wheel-barrow behind her; also, you will see the great Italian Master, who not only passes all that has yet been seen on the tight-rope, but he dances without a pole upon the head of a mast as high as the booth will permit, and afterwards stands upon his head upon the same."

Also "You will be entertained by an Italian Scaramouche who dances on the rope with two children, and a dog in a wheel-barrow, and a duck on his head."

Pepys, who was a frequent visitor to Bartholomew Fair, says in 1668: "To Bartholomew Fair and saw there several sights; among others, the mare that tells money, and many things, to admiration; and among others, come to me, when she was bid to go to him of the company that most loved a pretty wench in a corner. And this did cost me 12d. to the horse, which I had flung him before, and did give me occasion to kiss a mighty *belle fille*."

That rare Ben Jonson knew well the Bartholomew Fair of his day his famous play of that name bears witness.

Amongst prizes offered at the fair for various feats were "Two gold-laced hats for the two

best cudgel-players ; a gown, a shift, and a pair of shoes and stockings, to be run for by four old women ; 3 lbs. of tobacco and a silver-laced hat to be grinned for by three old men, the frightfullest to be the winner ! ” The grinning match was a very favourite diversion, horse collars to grin through being provided by the prize-givers. A Mr. Shanks, of Lambeth Marsh, was perhaps the most famous promoter of grinning matches. He invited competitors from “ all England.”

At Bartholomew Fair *The Beggar's Opera* was frequently played. Here is an advertisement issued in 1728 :

“ We hear that Mr. Fielding from the Theatre in Drury-Lane, and Mr. Rynolds belonging to the Hay-market, will entertain the Town with the *Beggar's Opera*, at the George Inn, in Smithfield, during the time of Bartholomew Fair.”

The following advertisements describe other diversions of old-time London :

“ At the Duke of Marlborough's Head in Fleet-Street, in the great room is to be seen the famous Posture-master of all Europe . . . he extends his body into all deformed shapes, makes his hips and shoulder bones meet together ; lays his head upon the ground, and turns his body round twice or thrice without stirring his face from the place ; stands upon one leg, and extends the other in a perpendicular line, half a yard above his head ; and extends his body from a table, with his head a foot below his heels, having nothing to balance his body but

his feet, with several other postures too tedious to mention."

"At William Well's Bear-Garden in Tuttle Fields, this present Monday, the 10th of April, (1703), will be a *green* bull baited, and twenty doggs fight for a collar, and that dogg that runs farthest and fairest wins the collar; with other diversions of bull-baiting and bear-baiting. Beginning at two of the clock."

"At the request of several persons of Quality, on Saturday next, being the 9th instant, (December 1670), at the Theatre in Dorset Gardens, the famous Kentishmen, Wm. and Rich. Joy, design to show to the Town before they leave it, the same Tryals of Strength, both of them, that Wm. had the honour of showing before his Majesty and their Royal Highnesses, with several other persons of Quality; for which he received a considerable Gratitude. The lifting a Weight of Two Thousand Two Hundred and Forty Pounds. His holding an extraordinary large Cart Horse; and Breaking a Rope which will bear Three Thousand Five Hundred Weight. Beginning exactly at 2, and ending at 4. The Boxes, 4s.; the Pit, 2s. 6d.; 1st Gallery, 2s.; Upper Gallery, 1s. Whereas, several scandalous Persons have given out that they can do as much as any of the brothers, we do offer to such persons £100 reward, if he can perform the said matters of strength as they do, provided the Pretender will forfeit £20, if he doth not. The day it is perform'd will be affixed a signal Flag on the

Theatre. No money to be return'd after once paid."

Of course there was plenty of dancing, and the following is an announcement of a ball at the King's Theatre in the Haymarket.

"To-morrow, being Thursday, the 6th day of February, there will be

A BALL.

"Tickets will be deliver'd to the Subscribers this day, at White's Chocolate-House in St. James's Street.

"Strict orders are given not to deliver any Bottles and Glasses from the Side-Boards, and to shut them up early.

"No persons whatsoever can be admitted to see the House before the Ball begins.

"If any Subscriber, or others, have any Tickets to spare, they are desir'd not to give them to their Servants, but to send them to the Office in the Haymarket, where the Money they cost shall be return'd, to prevent their falling into Bad Hands."

That there were other diversions at the theatres besides plays, the following bill, said to have been written by Theophilus Cibber, is evidence :

"AT THE NEW THEATRE IN THE HAY-MARKET, ON WEDNESDAY THE 29th,

of this instant April.

"The beauty of the Science of Defence will

be shewn in a Trial of skill between the following masters, viz.—

“Whereas, there was a battle fought on the 18th of March last, between MR. JOHNSON, from Yorkshire, and Mr. SHERLOCK, from Ireland, in which engagement they came so near as to throw each other down. Since that rough battle, the said SHERLOCK has challenged JOHNSON to fight him, strapt down to the stage, for twenty pounds; to which the said JOHNSON has agreed; and they are to meet at the time and place above mentioned, and fight in the following manner, viz. to have their left feet strapt down to the stage, within reach of each other’s right leg; and the most bleeding wounds to decide the wager.

“N.B. The undaunted young JAMES, who is thought the bravest of his age in the manly art of boxing, fights the stout-hearted GEORGE GRAY, for ten pounds, who values himself for fighting the famous GLOVER at Tottenham Court. Attendance to be given at *ten*, and the *masters mount at twelve*. Cudgel-playing and boxing to divert the gentlemen till the battle begins.”

“At the Theatre Royal in the Hay-Market, on Monday next, the 10th instant, Mr. Maddox will, for the first time of his performing in England, exhibit several feats of activity, as undermentioned!—He will swing and walk on the wire. . . . Takes a long pipe in his mouth, and places another on the small end whilst in full swing. . . . Stands with one foot

on the wire, balances a straw upon the edge of a glass, and plays on the fiddle at the same time. . . . Tosses and catches a straw on different parts of his face, and from his left to his right shoulder ; from thence to his knees down to his feet ; tosses it up again to his forehead, and from thence to his right heel ; then holds a wine glass in his mouth, and tosses the straw with his heel into the glass ; takes the straw with the ear downwards, and with a blast blows it topsy-turvy. . . .

“ This wonderful entertainment to conclude with “ a grand transparent scene, in which will be introduced a musical Dialogue between William and Mary, call’d LOVE and RESOLUTION ; composed by Dr. Arne, and sung by Mr. Baker and Mrs. Beaumont.”

In 1701, the citizens of London were invited to see “ a Tiger who had been taught to pick a fowl’s feathers from his body,” also to see the skeleton of a whale, then lately caught in the Thames, which the proprietors had carefully scraped and put together in the field near King-street, Holborn. The advertisement states that “ one bone of his head weighed forty hundredweight.”

CHAPTER VI

OLD CITY CHURCHES—BRIEF HISTORIES IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER

READERS of these short histories of the old City churches can hardly fail to be struck with the large number of the vanished, and to wonder what the City looked like before the Great Fire, mention of which runs through these records like continuous streams of flame and smoke. It must come as a surprise to many to learn that the churches were about twice as numerous before the Fire as now. Of those then existing that were consumed in the Fire, thirty-five were not rebuilt, fifteen of those re-erected have since been destroyed, whilst three that escaped have since succumbed to Time and the Church-breaker, a total of fifty-three vanished churches, or one more than those now remaining, of which records are here given.

ALL HALLOWS BARKING BY THE TOWER, Great Tower Street. Was an ancient appurtenance of the Abbey or Convent of Barking in Essex, whence the name is derived. There are no records of the original foundation of this church, but it was

probably built somewhere about A.D. 680 for the convent above named, which is said to have been founded by Erkenwald, a Bishop of London in the seventh century. The first church, therefore, would appear to have been built some 400 years before the Tower of London. The parish books record that the church was rebuilt in 1020, repaired in 1634-5, also in 1814-36, and subsequently.

All Hallows (All Saints) had a very narrow escape during the Great Fire, as we may learn from Pepys, under date September 5, 1666: "My wife calls me up, and tells me of new cryes of fire, it being come to Barking Church, which is the bottom of our lane" (Seething Lane). . . . "But going to the fire, I find by the blowing up of houses, and the great help given by the workmen out of the King's yards, sent up by Sir W. Pen, there is a good stop given to it, as well at Marke-lane end, as ours; it having only burned the dyall of Barking Church, and part of the porch, and was there quenched. I up to the top of Barking Steeple, and there saw the saddest sight of desolation that I ever saw; . . . I became afraid to stay there long, and therefore down again as fast as I could, the fire being spread as far as I could see it."

It is interesting to note that the Sir W. Pen referred to by Pepys was Admiral Sir William Penn, father of the founder of Pennsylvania, who was born in Great Tower Street and baptized in this church.

On the altar and font there is some very elaborate carving which is said to have been the work of Grinling Gibbons.

Being so near, All Hallows was frequently used for burial of the bodies of those executed on Tower Hill and in the Tower. Amongst them were the Bishop of Rochester, Earl of Surrey, Laud, Thomas Grey, uncle of Lady Jane Grey, etc.

A noticeable feature is the number of elaborate brasses, unequalled in any London church, one of them commemorating William Thynne, the first editor of Chaucer. The sword-rests of former Lord Mayors and members of City Companies, each surmounted by a gilded crown, are also of great interest. The pulpit dates from Charles I. The tower which was built during the Commonwealth, is the same that Pepys hurried up to mark the progress of the Great Fire. He calls it a steeple, however.

To this church Richard Cœur de Lion added a chapel dedicated to St. Mary, which stood in the churchyard about a hundred yards distant. According to tradition the heart of the King was buried in this chapel under the altar. The claim that the heart of Richard was actually deposited in his chapel "in Berkinshaw" has recently (1924) been revived in connection with the "Toc H" services, and it is just possible that the heart may be found there.

ALL HALLOWS, Lombard Street, called by Stow "All Hallows, Grasse Church," because "for that the Grass market went down that way" (from which grass market the name of Gracechurch Street is derived), is now the parochial church of three other parishes, all of which had their respective churches in the past. These were St. Benet Gracechurch, at the corner of Gracechurch and Fenchurch Streets, pulled down in 1867; St. Leonard Eastcheap, on Fish Street Hill, destroyed in the Great Fire and not rebuilt; and St. Dionis Backchurch, at the corner of Lime Street, which was re-erected after the Fire, but pulled down in 1878. From one or other of these churches All Hallows, Lombard Street, would appear to have been considerably enriched with fine carvings, and with ten bells from St. Dionis, etc.

All Hallows did not escape the Fire, but on the contrary suffered very serious damage, to patch up which various endeavours were made. Eventually, however, Wren was entrusted with the building of a new church, which he completed in 1694. The original All Hallows would appear to have dated back to before the twelfth century, for there is a record concerning the benefice bearing the date of 1053.

All Hallows is chiefly noted for its excellent woodwork—nine-foot oak panelling on the walls; very handsome altarpiece in carved oak; beautifully carved pulpit and sounding-

board; two fine oak door-cases with representations of curtains most delicately carved, with a four-foot figure of Death over one, and of Time over the other. There are also fine sword-rests. The monuments are not notable, which, considering the wealth of Lombard Street from its earliest days, would appear to be rather singular.

ALL HALLOWS ON THE WALL, London Wall, near the corner of Old Broad Street, derives its descriptive designation from the old Roman wall. It is said that the vestry is actually built on one of the bastions, and a piece of the old mediæval, superimposed wall may still be seen in the churchyard. The early records have a good deal to say about an "anker" (anchorite) who inhabited a cell connected with this church, and it is suggested that his cell was actually the Roman bastion. The original church, which dated back to before the fifteenth century, escaped the Great Fire, but having got into a very bad condition, was pulled down in 1764. The present church was repaired in 1891, a very unique feature being retained, i.e. the pulpit can only be reached through the vestry.

AUSTIN FRIARS (Dutch Reformed Church), Austin Friars, Old Broad Street. Here the Augustinian Friars made their settlement in 1253 and in course of time erected their

splendid monastery. That a church still remains is probably due to its having been placed at the service of a Dutch congregation. The present church is modern, and of the old edifice as Stow knew it there is little left, although the pavement of the church shows traces of some forty brasses, mostly memorials to members of noble families.

CHRIST CHURCH, Newgate Street. In the year 1224 a small band of Grey Friars (Franciscans) arrived in London, and their numbers increasing, a church and monastery were eventually built for them. In 1306 a larger church was commenced, many royal personages contributing to the funds. Amongst these were Margaret, Queen of Edward I; John, Duke of Brittany; Isabella, Queen of Edward II; and Philippa, Queen of Edward III. This new church of the Grey Friars was completed in 1325, and was probably unsurpassed in London, being entirely paved with marble, with marble columns. To the monastery Sir Richard Whittington, "thrice Lord Mayor of London," added a library, which he also furnished with books. The splendid church is described by Stow, who gives a long list of the great personages buried there, which included three Queens of England and a Queen of Scots.

At the Dissolution the church of the Grey Friars remained closed for some time, but

about 1546 the edifice was made parochial and given the name of Christ's Church, while the monastery buildings were repaired as an asylum for poor fatherless children. Thus began Christ's Hospital, to which Edward VI granted a charter just before his death. The old church stood until 1666, when it was burnt in the Great Fire. Wren completed the present church in 1687, adding the steeple seventeen years later. According to Strype, the new church occupies only about half the ground-space of the old one. In 1834 the Governors of St. Bartholomew's Hospital repaired and beautified it.

Unfortunately all the splendid old monuments disappeared soon after the Dissolution, Sir Martin Bowes, goldsmith and Alderman of London, having, it is said, sold them for £50, thereby rendering his name notorious for all time. Formerly the galleries of Christ Church were reserved for the Bluecoat boys, who have now been removed to Godalming.

ST. ALBAN, Wood Street, derives its name from Alban of Verulam, the noble Roman who gave up his life for his friend, was martyred on the hill where St. Alban's Cathedral now stands, and of whom Wordsworth wrote :

" England's first Martyr, whom no threat could shake,
Self-offered victim, for his friend he died,
And for the faith. . . ."

Offa the Terrible, King of Mercia, who reigned A.D. 757-96, is said to have had a

palace in Wood Street, and a chapel, this chapel being the forerunner of the present church. Offa founded the Abbey of St. Albans in 793, and is believed to have granted this parish to it. Afterwards the patronage of St. Alban Wood Street was vested in St. James's Hospital for Lepers at Westminster. In 1632 the old church, which was very dilapidated, was pulled down, and rebuilt in 1634, it is said from designs by Inigo Jones. In 1666, however, it was wholly consumed in the Great Fire. The present edifice is one of Wren's churches, i.e. one of the large number rebuilt by Sir Christopher Wren after the Fire. It was completed in 1685, but has been much altered for the worse subsequently.

There are monuments to Harvey, Major of the Yellow Regiment of Trained Bands in the City, to Richard Wynne, a benefactor of the poor, etc., but nothing very notable. With regard to the iconoclastic reparations, an authority has written of the result in the following terms: "No pains seem to have been spared to render the once interesting and dignified interior as commonplace as possible."

ST. ALPHAGE, London Wall. In 1068 William the Conqueror by charter confirmed the patronage of the original church of St. Alphage to the Dean of the Collegiate Church of St. Martin-le-Grand, so it will be seen that

the earliest foundation existed previous to the Conquest. This edifice stood on the north side of London Wall, a fragment of the old Roman wall being preserved in the churchyard. The next church dedicated to St. Alphage stood on the south side of London Wall, near Aldermanbury, on the site of the Elsing Hospital and Priory, founded in 1329, and comprised part of the old Priory church. It was repaired between 1624 and 1628, and again in 1649. Escaping the Fire, it was once more repaired in 1701, but becoming dangerous was taken down in 1774, and the present edifice, which has no particularly interesting features, erected in 1777.

ST. ANDREW, Holborn. In a charter dated A.D. 971 of Edgar, the Saxon king who ridded England of its wolves, if he had no other merit, the church of St. Andrew is referred to. How much earlier was its foundation the records do not appear to show. At the Dissolution, however, the advowson was an appanage of the Abbey of Bermondsey. The church was rebuilt during the fifteenth century, and appears very soon to have badly required further reparation, but the Civil War intervening, nothing would seem to have been done until Wren took in hand the edifice, which had escaped the Great Fire, in 1686, and leaving the tower as it was, reconstructed the body of the church. Afterwards he refaced the tower with Portland

stone. Other reparations are recorded as in 1851 and 1872.

The interior of the church is very richly decorated; the altarpiece is a fine one, and the east window contains some remarkable glass, the work of John Price, inserted in 1718, and representing the Resurrection and the Last Supper. Another window bears the arms of John Thavies, whence Thavies Inn. At his death in 1348 he bequeathed the income from certain houses for the repair of the church, and the property would still appear to belong to the parish. In 1713 the celebrated Dr. Sacheverel was rector, the benefice having, it is said, been granted to him at the instance of Dean Swift. St. Andrew's has many other interesting associations. We instance:—John Webster, the dramatist, is said to have been the parish clerk, and to be buried in the church, while the name of Chatterton appears on the records. He committed suicide near by in 1770. John Emery, the actor, has a tablet to his memory. Here Hazlitt was married; here Richard Savage and Benjamin Disraeli were baptized, the latter when about twelve years old.

ST. ANDREW UNDERSHAFT, Leadenhall Street, at the corner of St. Mary Axe, derives its distinctive name from a "shaft" or maypole which formerly stood in front of the south door. As the "shaft" was taller than the steeple, or tower, the church became

known as "Undershaft." The present building dates from the sixteenth century, but a much older edifice evidently stood on the site, for Stow, the "Antiquary of England," as he loved to describe himself, and whose monument is a feature of the church, writes of its being "new built by the parishioners there since the year 1529."

Stow's monument is of terra-cotta, and represents the Antiquary, in the robe of a liveryman of the Merchant Taylors' Company, seated at a table under a canopy, with an open book before him, and holding a pen. This monument, with its fitting inscription, which, translated, reads: "Either do such things as are worthy to be written, or write such things as are worthy to be read," has quite recently been restored. At a commemoration service held afterwards, the Lord Mayor placed a new quill pen in the Antiquary's hand.

On a wall is a brass tablet with an inscription to the memory of Hans Holbein, "Painter to His Majesty King Henry VIII." The west window contains five full-length portraits of English sovereigns, Edward VI, Elizabeth, James I, Charles I, and Charles II. A monument of a great Merchant Adventurer, Sir Hugh Hammersley, Lord Mayor, 1627, and his wife, is also worthy of notice, as are those of several other City worthies.

ST. ANDREW BY THE WARDROBE,
Queen Victoria Street, derives its distin-

guishing name from the Great Wardrobe of Edward III, which stood near by. This actually was the mansion of Sir John Beauchamp, Warden of the Cinque Ports, from whose executors the King purchased it to keep his apparel in. The church stands on an eminence formerly known as Puddle Dock Hill, and is very prominent from Queen Victoria Street. Rebuilt by Wren after the Great Fire and completed in 1692, St. Andrew also serves the parish of St. Anne, Blackfriars, of which the church was also destroyed, but not rebuilt. The advowson of St. Andrew formerly belonged to the Fitzwalters, Constables of Baynard's Castle at Blackfriars, and standard-bearers of the City of London. The benefice is now in the gift of the Mercers' Company.

There is some good wood-work, wainscotting to the height of seven and a half feet, well-carved pulpit, and excellent altarpiece, with a handsome sword-rest above a Corporation pew. To three successive rectors of the church there are monuments in white marble.

ST. ANNE AND ST. AGNES, Gresham Street.

Said to be named from two sisters who built the church at their own expense. The original edifice was badly damaged by fire in 1548, and wholly destroyed in the Great Fire. The present church was entrusted to Wren and completed in 1681. The parish now includes that of St. John Zachary, of which the

church was also destroyed, but not rebuilt. St. Anne and St. Agnes does not possess any features of particular interest.

ST. AUGUSTINE, Watling Street, is dedicated to St. Augustine, the first Archbishop of Canterbury, and not to the St. Augustine who was Bishop of Hippo. There is no record of the date when the first church was erected, but it was rebuilt and beautified in 1630-1, only to be destroyed in the Great Fire. Rebuilt by Wren, it was re-opened 1683. The parish of St. Augustine's now includes that of St. Faith, which formerly had its own church, pulled down in 1256, when the crypt under Old St. Paul's was used as a church, and subsequently, in 1551, the Jesus Chapel beneath the choir of the Cathedral. The benefices of St. Augustine and St. Faith were merged after the Fire. The author of *The Ingoldsby Legends*, the Rev. R. H. Barham, was Rector of St. Augustine and St. Faith during the last three years of his life.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT, West Smithfield, which comprises part of the Church of the Priory of St. Bartholomew, is said to be the oldest parochial church in London. The ancient hospital and priory were founded by Rahere, a jester and minstrel of the Court of Henry I, in 1123. In the tower are five old bells dating from before 1510, and respectively dedicated to

St. Bartholomew, St. Katherine, St. Anne, St. John Baptist, and St. Peter. The architecture is mostly Norman. Being in such a busy quarter, the church has been hemmed in, and from time to time buildings even encroached into the sacred edifice itself, a blacksmith's forge having at one time occupied the north transept, and a fringe factory another part. These have now been removed.

Within the communion rails is the tomb of Rahere, the first Prior and founder. This is the work of an artist of the fifteenth century. During the nineteenth century the tomb was opened, and in a glass case in the north transept may now be seen the skeleton of Rahere, also part of a sandal which was found with it. It is believed that the font is the same in which Hogarth was baptized in November 1697.

A quaint custom is preserved on Good Friday of every year. A sermon is preached by the rector in the churchyard, after which twenty-one sixpences are dropped, to be picked up by twenty-one selected widows. The fund which provided the sixpences has disappeared, but the coins continued to be provided by the churchwardens until a sum of money was left for the purpose.

The monuments are of great interest, amongst them being the tomb of Sir Walter Mildmay, Elizabeth's Chancellor and founder of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, a figure of Sir Robert Chamberlayn, etc.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW THE LESS, West Smithfield. Prior to the Dissolution the original foundation of St. Bartholomew the Less served as a chapel to Rahere's Hospital and Priory, and afterwards as a parish church for the residents. The old tower still remains, but the body of the church was remodelled in 1789. This, being constructed of timber, soon fell into decay, which made it necessary to rebuild the church in 1823. It has since been restored, and presents a very modern appearance. A few of the old monuments have been preserved, including a tablet to the memory of the wife of Sir Thomas Bodley, founder of the Bodleian Library at Oxford. Inigo Jones was baptized in this church in 1573.

ST. BENET (BENEDICT), Paul's Wharf, Upper Thames Street. An indication of the age of the original church is obtained in the fact that it contained a monument to Sir William Cheney, Chief Justice, who died in 1442. Like so many City churches, St. Benet's, with its ancient memorials, perished in the Great Fire, was rebuilt by Wren, and completed in 1683. Here, in 1652, was buried the famous architect, Inigo Jones. The monument to his memory, of white marble, was destroyed with others. Situated very near to the College of Arms, many dignitaries of that institution have found resting-places at St. Benet's, including Brooke ("Somerset

Herald"), Oldys ("Norroy"), etc. As the parish has been united with that of St. Nicholas Cole Abbey, the church is no longer parochial, but has been devoted to the use of Welsh residents in London, two services in their native tongue being held each Sunday.

ST. BOTOLPH, Aldersgate. At one time there were four churches in the City of London dedicated to St. Botolph, the founder of Botolph's town (Boston) and monastery in Lincolnshire, and the patron saint of travellers. The church of St. Botolph, Billingsgate, having been destroyed in the Great Fire, there are now three only, in Aldgate, Bishopsgate, and Aldersgate respectively. The last-named church was in existence before the reign of Richard II (1377-99), and was repaired in 1627. Passing through the Great Fire with little damage, but having fallen into a dilapidated state, it was demolished in 1790 and the present church erected. There are a number of monuments, but none of any great importance. It is interesting to note that all the churches dedicated to St. Botolph were situated just outside a City gate, convenient for the traveller setting out on a journey, to pray for a safe one, or on returning unharmed, to give thanks to God.

ST. BOTOLPH, Aldgate. Originally founded during the reign of William the Conqueror,

St. Botolph's Church in Aldgate was pulled down in 1741, when the present church was erected. A tomb of alabaster to the memory of Lord Darcy of the North and Sir Nicholas Carew, who were beheaded on Tower Hill in 1537 and 1538 respectively, are the most important monuments.

ST. BOTOLPH, Bishopsgate. Of the early history of the original church little appears to be known, but the records show that the churchyard was enlarged in 1615, and the ground on the west of St. Botolph added in 1760. Where is now New Broad Street, with its fine banks and office buildings, was, at the earliest date, "Petty France," so called, "of Frenchmen dwelling there," this little France being just at the bottom of the churchyard. In the old church was baptized Alleyn, the actor who founded Dulwich College; a great benefactor was Sir Paul Pindar, the rich Turkey merchant who supported Charles I "through thick and thin" and died poor in consequence. He was buried in old St. Botolph's in 1650. The present edifice was erected in 1729, the first having become ruinous. In this church, which contains a monument to Sir Paul Pindar, John Keats was baptized in 1795.

ST. BRIDE, Fleet Street, is dedicated to St. Bridget, whose name has been corrupted to

Bride. She lived in the sixth century, died in Ireland, believed to be her native land, and is said to have been buried in St. Patrick's grave. That the church existed before 1222 there are records to prove, but the actual date of its foundation does not appear to be known. Situated in the old parish of Westminster, the advowson belonged before the Dissolution to the Abbot and Convent, and it still vested in the Abbey's Dean and Chapter. The present church was built by Wren in 1680, the previous edifice having been destroyed in the Great Fire. The steeple, which is considered one of Wren's masterpieces, was erected in 1701. The interior of the church is very beautiful, and in the original building and the present church many famous men have found resting-places. We instance Wynkyn de Worde, the famous early printer ; Sir Richard Baker, author of *The Chronicles of the Kings of England* ; Richard Lovelace, the poet, but this is not certain ; and Samuel Richardson, the novelist, who lived in the neighbouring Salisbury Court. At one time Milton lodged in the churchyard, but apparently did not remain there long. From a well near by, also called after St. Bridget, was derived the name of a residence of Henry III and his successors, the Royal Palace which was presented to the citizens by Edward VI to be used as a workhouse for the poor and place of correction, and which eventually became known as Bridewell Prison.

ST. CLEMENT, Eastcheap (actually in Clement's Lane). The date of the original foundation is not known to us, but up to the Dissolution the Abbot and Convent of Westminster held the advowson, which Queen Mary gave to the See of London. St. Clement's was destroyed in the Great Fire, when the neighbouring church of St. Martin Orgar was seriously damaged. Subsequently St. Clement's, which was rebuilt by Wren, has served for both parishes, the church of St. Martin Orgar having been utilised as a place of worship for Huguenot emigrants. A tower representing the site of the latter old church still stands in Martin's Lane. The west window in St. Clement's was constructed as a memorial to Thomas Fuller, the historian, Bishop Walton, the compiler of the Polyglot Bible, and Bishop Pearson, who are also commemorated by brass tablets. Henry Purcell, the famous composer, was at one time organist at this church, which contains a very richly carved oak pulpit and sounding-board, and a very fine altarpiece.

ST. DUNSTAN IN THE EAST, Corner of St. Dunstan's Hill and Idol Lane. So named to distinguish it from St. Dunstan in the West (which is in Fleet Street), and dedicated to the Saxon Archbishop of Canterbury who was the first of the great Churchmen Dictators. There appears to be no record of the original foundation of St. Dunstan's in the East, but

it was enlarged in 1382, practically rebuilt in 1633, and nearly destroyed in the Great Fire, when the whole of the interior and all the monuments were consumed, including a memorial to the great sailor, Sir John Hawkins. Wren reconstructed the church in 1681, and completed the famous steeple in 1699. This steeple is almost unique, there being, it is said, only three others resembling it, at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Edinburgh, and Aberdeen, respectively. The body of Wren's church was pulled down about 1816, and a new one built 1817-21. The splendid steeple remained, and to-day shows few traces of the years that have passed. There are a number of monuments, but none to any person of particular eminence.

ST. DUNSTAN IN THE WEST, Fleet Street, is so named to distinguish it from St. Dunstan in the East. The first record of the original church available is dated 1237, when the church was granted to Henry III, who, it is said, applied the "profits" to the maintenance of an asylum for converted Jews. Edward III, however, transformed the church into the Rolls Court and Chapel. In 1361 the benefice was bestowed on the Abbot and Convent of Alnwick in Northumberland. Tyndale, who translated the New Testament, frequently preached in the old church, and here Strafford was baptized. St. Dunstan's, which narrowly escaped the Great Fire, after

being many times repaired, was pulled down in 1829, the present church being completed in 1833. There are many interesting ancient monuments, and some very fine carvings and stained glass. We really must mention the tablet to the "Honest" Solicitor, Hobson Judkin, and the window in memory of Izaak Walton, who was a parishioner. Walton himself is represented in this window, also six of his cronies, five of them subjects of "Lives" of which he was the author.

ST. EDMUND THE KING AND MARTYR, Lombard Street, is dedicated to the East Anglian king who, it is recorded, was shot to death with arrows by the Danes about A.D. 870, and was interred at Bury St. Edmunds, where a splendid abbey was reared above him. Stow calls the church of St. Edmund "St. Edmund Grasse Church," for the reason that the grass market extended to it. Destroyed in the Great Fire, St. Edmund's was rebuilt by Wren, and completed in 1690. Soon afterwards the parish of St. Nicholas Acon, whose church was also burnt, but not rebuilt, was combined with that of St. Edmund. The origin of the name "Acon" is in some doubt, but, according to Stow, it was often written "Hacon," and it has been suggested that this was the name of the founder. St Edmund's was restored in 1864 and again in 1880. Here Addison was married to the Countess of Warwick in 1716.

ST. ETHELBURGA, Bishopsgate Within, is said to be the oldest foundation in London. Dedicated to Ethelburga, the daughter of Ethelbert, King of Kent, who was the first Saxon king to become a Christian. There are few records of the church's earliest history, but it was rebuilt somewhere about the end of the fourteenth century. It is one of the few churches that escaped the Great Fire in 1666, but is so small and so shut in by neighbouring houses and shops that it may easily be passed without notice, indeed, at the first glance, it would appear that there is no entrance, although the quaint turret and part of the west window are plain to be seen above the shops from across the way. Admission is gained through an archway between two shops. There is little of interest, however, beyond the old fabric itself, and the curiously embellished font, with its Greek inscription, which, being translated, reads: "Cleanse my transgressions, not my outward appearance only," which in the Greek text reads the same backwards and forwards. There are no monuments of importance.

ST. GILES, CRIPPLEGATE, at west end of Fore Street. Founded about 1090 by Alfune, a friend of Rahere, and said to have been subsequently connected with the latter's Hospital of St. Bartholomew. A second church was built on the site of Alfune's original edifice in the fourteenth century, but,

except the outer walls, this was destroyed by fire in 1545. The church as it now exists is practically the same as when re-erected.

The steeple contains twelve bells, and was raised fifteen feet in 1682-4. Another restoration was commenced in 1704. Again, in 1791 two additional windows were inserted on each side of the clerestory, considerably altering the conformation of the church. The pulpit is attributed to Grinling Gibbons, but without much evidence.

Many famous men are buried in the church, the one of most interest being John Milton, whose grave is marked by a stone bearing the following inscription: "Near this spot was buried John Milton, Author of Paradise Lost. Born 1608, Died 1674." The stone lies just outside the communion rails. Until 1793, however, there was no monument to the poet, when a bust of him, sculptured by the elder Bacon, was set up in the nave. During a restoration of the church in 1862, a cenotaph was erected in the south aisle to honour his last resting-place, in the central niche of which is placed the bust by Bacon. There are some interesting windows, one at the west end comprising "The Shepherds Watching their Flocks," "The Nativity" and "The Wise Men coming from the East." A tablet to the memory of John Foxe of the *Book of Martyrs* appears on a wall, also monuments to descendants of Shakespeare's reputed Mr. Justice Shallow, or rather, of Sir Thomas

Lucy of Charlecote, who is thought to have had a town house in the parish. On the south wall is a monument to Sir Martin Frobisher, who was buried in the church ; a tablet here is inscribed with four lines of Macaulay's stirring poem "The Spanish Armada," beginning "Attend, all ye who list to hear our noble England's praise." On the same wall is a monument to John Speed, a noted antiquary.

Oliver Cromwell was married in this church. In the churchyard are the remains of a bastion of the old Roman wall.

SAINT HELEN, Great St. Helen's, Bishopsgate, the "Westminster Abbey" of London's Old City, a description due to the many noted citizens who worshipped there, and who are represented by monuments, tablets, brasses, and stained windows in this ancient edifice. Few, perhaps, of the many who pass and look upon the grey church hidden in its quiet corner ask themselves who was this St. Helena, from whom Great St. Helen's, St. Helen's Place in Bishopsgate, the Priory which once stood there, and the old church acquired their names. She was the Empress Helena, the mother of Constantine the Great, and legends say that not only was she the daughter of a British king, but also that the first church erected here was founded by Constantine himself in honour of his mother. They are pleasant fancies, but unfortunately

Gibbon says that Helena was the daughter of a Nicomedian innkeeper. Constantine, however, was in Britain in A.D. 306, so if the legend relating to the church should by any chance be true, then in Great St. Helen's is the site of one of the earliest Christian churches in London.

That the church existed in Saxon times is certain, for there about 1010 the body of King Edmund the Martyr was placed for safety and there it remained three years. The history of the present church, however, appears to date from the reign of King John, for about 1212, permission was granted to found the Priory of St. Helen for nuns of the Benedictine Order, of which priory the church was an annexe. In 1475 Sir John Crosby, who lived at the famous Crosby Place near by, left money for the church's repair. In 1538 the priory was surrendered to Henry VIII. Afterwards the Leathersellers' Company owned it. St. Helen's has been many times repaired: in 1631 by Inigo Jones; in 1744—1809—1841—1876—1891-3.

Of the memorials to City worthies we have only space for bare mention: they include that of John Robinson (merchant taylor) and his wife and family (1599); of Hugh Pemberton (merchant taylor) and wife (1500); Francis Bancroft (1727), who left £28,000 for almshouses and a school, and who designed his own tomb; Martin Bond, Captain of the City's Trained Bands at the famous review

by Elizabeth at Tilbury Fort in 1588; Sir Thomas Gresham, founder of the Royal Exchange (1579); Sir Andrew Judde, merchant adventurer and philanthropist; Sir Julius Cæsar, of Italian extraction, who rose to great eminence, and recorded his readiness to die, when God pleased, in an inscription drawn up in strict legal form, and who also designed his own tomb; Sir William Pickering, a noted soldier and scholar; Sir John Crosby, of the already-mentioned Crosby Place, the hall of which has been re-erected at Chelsea; Sir John Lawrence, and many others. In 1598 a William Shakespeare lived in St. Helen's. If this were the "Swan of Avon," as some believe, he must often have worshipped in this famous old church. And certainly he knew Crosby Place well.

ST. JAMES, GARLICK HITHE. Garlick Hill, on which this church stands, was so named, Stow says, "for that of old time . . . near to this church, garlick was usually sold." The date of its original foundation is not available, but it was rebuilt in 1326, and repaired in 1624. After its destruction in the Great Fire, Wren built a new church of stone, completed in 1683. The walls are oak-panelled to the height of nine feet.

On the demolition of St. Michael's Church, Queenhithe, which stood in Upper Thames Street, the two parishes were united, and St. James's now serves both.

ST. KATHERINE COLEMAN, Fenchurch Street, derives its distinctive name, Stow says, from "a great haw-yard or garden, of old time called Coleman Haw." It would appear, therefore, that Coleman was the name of the owner of the garden. The original church was repaired in 1620 and in 1703. It was pulled down in 1734, and the present church erected. There are no features of particular interest.

ST. KATHERINE CREECHURCH (Christ-church), Leadenhall Street. Derives its distinctive name from St. Katherine of Alexandria, who in the fourth century was tortured on the wheel for daring to rebuke the Emperor Maximinius for cruelty to the Christians. The "Cree" is a corruption of, or a synonym for, Christ, which is derived from the Priory of Holy Trinity Christ's Church, Aldgate, founded about 1108. Previously to the erection of St. Katherine Cree, about 1290, the parishioners had been accustomed to worship in the Priory Church, which was found inconvenient. The body of St. Katherine Cree was rebuilt between 1628 and 1630, the steeple having been erected early in the sixteenth century; it is still standing. On being reopened in 1631, the church was consecrated by Laud, Bishop of London at the time. Some say that it is the work of Inigo Jones, but this is doubtful.

There is a very large east window in the

chancel, the top of which is shaped like a Katherine wheel, and filled with stained glass, the gift of Sir Samuel Stainer, Lord Mayor, 1713. Also on the south side is the tomb of Sir Nicholas Throckmorton, from whom Nicholas Lane and Throgmorton Street are said to have taken their names. That Hans Holbein was buried in this church is a tradition of which Strype gives some evidence, as he mentions that the Earl of Arundel would have set up a monument to Holbein had he known where the body lay. On the wall in Leadenhall Street there is a very curious old sundial, and at one time there was a porch which Strype describes as "a very fair gate," but this has disappeared.

In the floor before the communion-table is a brass to Sir John Gayer, a Turkey merchant, Lord Mayor 1646, and a steadfast adherent of Charles I. This Sir John Gayer, having encountered a desert lion and escaped unharmed, left money for the preaching of a sermon to commemorate the event. It is called the "Lion Sermon," and is delivered on October 16 each year. After the Dissolution the large priory church was offered in exchange for St. Katherine Cree, which it was intended to pull down, but the parishioners refused to permit the sacrifice of their little church.

ST. LAWRENCE JEWRY, Gresham Street,
owes its distinctive name to its contiguity to

"Old Jewry," the district occupied by the Jews on their first settling in London. St. Lawrence Jewry was completely destroyed in the Great Fire, with the church of St. Mary Magdalen, Milk Street, which was not rebuilt, its parish being now united with that of St. Lawrence Jewry. The present church, which is the work of Wren, was completed in 1680. Many famous citizens were buried in the original church, amongst them Sir Geffrey Bullen, great-grandfather of Queen Anne Boleyn, and Sir Richard Gresham, father of the founder of the Royal Exchange and of Gresham College.

On each Michaelmas Day a service is held at which the Lord Mayor and Corporation attend. There is much finely carved oak and many beautiful windows. The spire is surmounted by a vane in the shape of a gridiron, emblematic of the iron bed on which St. Lawrence was martyred by the order of Valerian, as described in the Book of Martyrs.

ST. MAGNUS THE MARTYR, London Bridge (actually Thames Street, at the bottom of Fish Street Hill), is said to be dedicated to Magnus, a Christian who suffered martyrdom about A.D. 276 in Cæsarea in Cappadocia. The date of the foundation of St. Magnus appears not to be definitely known, but Henry de Yeveley, who was employed at Westminster Hall, was buried in the old church in 1400. Destroyed in the

Great Fire, the rebuilding was entrusted to Wren, who completed the body of the church in 1676, and the steeple, which is famous for its beauty, in 1705. The parish is now combined with that of St. Margaret, New Fish Street, which was not rebuilt after the Fire, its site being now occupied by the Monument. Miles Coverdale, who first translated the Bible into English, became Rector of St. Magnus (1563-4) after the accession of Elizabeth, having previously been Bishop of Exeter, and in 1840 his body was brought to St. Magnus from St. Bartholomew by the Exchange. St. Magnus contains a monument to his memory with an eloquent inscription. When St. Michael's, Crooked Lane, was demolished, that parish also was joined with St. Magnus and St. Margaret.

ST. MARGARET LOTHBURY derives its distinctive name from its situation. The advowson formerly belonged to the Abbess and Convent of Barking, but since the Dissolution has been in the gift of the Crown. According to Stow, St. Margaret's was restored about the year 1440, Caxton's master, Robert Large, Lord Mayor in the year mentioned, being a contributor. It was again repaired in 1621, and rebuilt in 1690 by Wren after the Great Fire. St. Margaret Lothbury is now the parochial church of a number of other parishes, viz. of St. Christopher, whose church stood on the site of the

Bank of England ; of St. Bartholomew by the Exchange, where Miles Coverdale was buried, and which was pulled down in 1841 ; of St. Olave Jewry, where Robert Large and Boydell, the engraver, were buried, which was demolished in 1888 ; of St. Martin Pomery, Ironmonger Lane, supposed by Stow to have been named from apple trees there, which church was not rebuilt after the Great Fire ; of St. Mildred in the Poultry, which stood on the Walbrook, and was pulled down in 1872 ; and of St. Mary Colechurch, also not rebuilt after the Fire, but famous as being the place of baptism of Thomas à Becket and the church of Peter, the builder of Old London Bridge.

By memorials from some of these vanished churches, St. Margaret Lothbury has been greatly enriched. On each side of the altarpiece are effigies of Moses and Aaron from the church of St. Christopher ; the splendid pulpit and sounding-board and the chancel screen are from All Hallows, Upper Thames Street. The monument to John Boydell, before mentioned, came from St. Olave Jewry.

ST. MARGARET PATTENS, Eastcheap (corner of Rood Lane), is said to have obtained the name of "pattens" from the fact that Rood Lane was once a mart for those iron-shod boot-savers which were so necessary in the muddy streets of Old London.

The old church was rebuilt in the reign of Henry VIII and repaired in 1614 and 1632, but destroyed in the Great Fire. It is interesting to note that the advowson once belonged to Sir Richard Whittington and other citizens, who gave it to the Lord Mayor and Council. The parish is now combined with that of St. Gabriel Fenchurch. Wren completed the present church of St. Margaret Pattens in 1687. There are several fine monuments, some fine carved wood-work, and a very handsome sword-rest. Two of its rectors were men of letters. One of them, Dr. Thomas Birch, wrote a *History of the Royal Society*, and edited *The Faerie Queene* and the works of Sir Walter Raleigh. His successor, Peter Whalley, who was for a time Headmaster of Christ's Hospital, edited Ben Jonson and wrote *An Enquiry into the Learning of Shakespeare*.

ST. MARTIN LUDGATE, Ludgate Hill.

The date of the foundation of the original church does not appear to be known, but Stow tells us that St. Martin's was rebuilt in the reign of Henry VI (1422-61). The steeple appears to have been built in 1437. This church was destroyed in the Great Fire, rebuilt by Wren, and completed in 1684. There is some good woodwork, a well-carved pulpit and panelled walls. In 1614 the rector was Samuel Purchas, a great writer of voyages and travels. He wrote *Purchas his*

Pilgrimage, etc., and *Hakluytus Posthumus*, etc., the last based on Hakluyt's unpublished works.

ST. MARY ABCHURCH, Abchurch Yard. The name is said to have been originally "Up-church," signifying the rising ground on which the church stands. Destroyed in the Great Fire, St. Mary Abchurch was rebuilt by Wren in 1686. Soon afterwards the parish was united with that of St. Lawrence Poultney (or Pountney), also destroyed, but not rebuilt. St. Mary Abchurch contains a good window, a beautiful altarpiece by Grinling Gibbons, a fine pulpit of carved oak, and two handsome sword-rests.

ST. MARY ALDERMARY, Bow Lane, Queen Victoria Street, is said to have been named "Aldermary" because it was the oldest church dedicated to St. Marie in the City. It was partly rebuilt by Sir Henry Keble, Lord Mayor in 1510, and in 1835 an ancient crypt was opened up which is believed to have formed part of Keble's church. The present church was built by Wren in 1681-2. In 1876-7 it was restored almost out of recognition, and the interior is now mostly new, except perhaps for the old glass in the east and west windows. There are no monuments of particular interest. A neighbouring church, that of St. Thomas the Apostle, in Knightrider Street, was also

destroyed in the Great Fire, and not being rebuilt, its parish was united with St. Mary Aldermary, which now serves four parishes, viz. St. Mary Aldermary, St. Thomas the Apostle, before mentioned, St. Antholin (St. Anthony), and St. John the Baptist, the church of St. Antholin having been taken down, and that of St. John not having been rebuilt after the Fire.

ST. MARY-LE-BOW (Bow Church), Cheapside, is the most famous parish church in the City, and its bells still ring out "Turn again, Whittington, Lord Mayor of London," as they did of yore. Originally it was called "New Marie" to distinguish it from "Old Mary" (Aldermary, see *supra*). Its name of "le Bow" is derived, Stow says, in one edition, from the arches, or bowes, on the top of the steeple, but in another he states that the name was bestowed "in the reign of William the Conqueror, being the first" (church) "in this City built on arches of stone." From Bow Church the "Court of Arches" derived its name, its sittings being held there. The reference to William I indicates the age of the original edifice. The old church had a stirring history. In 1090 the roof was carried away by the wind. In 1196 it was set on fire to drive out William Fitz-Osbert, who figures amongst our "citizens of credit and renown." In 1271 part of the steeple fell and killed many people. In 1284 a murder

was committed in the church, for which sixteen men were hanged and a woman burned. Repaired in 1620, Bow Church was totally destroyed in the Great Fire, with two neighbouring churches, St. Pancras, Soper Lane, and All Hallows, Honey Lane (Bread Street). St. Mary-le-Bow was rebuilt by Wren 1671-80, but one only of the other churches mentioned was re-erected, both parishes being eventually incorporated with St. Mary, as also was that of St. John the Evangelist. The steeple of Bow Church is said to be the most elaborate of the many erected by Wren, and cost over £7,000. Attached to the tower is a balcony constructed by Wren to commemorate a former "Royal stand" of Edward III from which the jousts and tournaments in Cheapside could be safely witnessed.

There are many monuments of interest, a tablet to the memory of Milton, and some good carvings.

ST. MARY-AT-HILL, Love Lane, Eastcheap. So named from being built on the hill between Billingsgate and Eastcheap. The first church was practically re-erected in 1616, but, with the exception of the tower, was destroyed in the Fire which consumed so many City churches, the new edifice which took its place being the work of Wren, who completed it in 1677. The parish is now combined with that of St. Andrew Hubbard, which

also stood in Love Lane and was destroyed, but not rebuilt. St. Mary's contains much excellent carving, and four handsome sword-rests. The Rev. John Brand, its rector for many years, and a famous antiquarian, is buried within the communion-rails. At the present time St. Mary's has won world-wide fame through the efforts of the present rector, the Rev. W. Carlile, D.D., the Founder and chief Director of the Church Army.

ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, Aldermanbury.

The original Church of St. Mary certainly dates from before 1332, as the patronage was disposed of in that year. Here were buried Condell and Heminge, Shakespeare's fellow-actors and editors. The old church being burnt in the Great Fire, the present church was completed by Wren in 1677. Here the notorious Judge Jeffreys was buried, his body having been removed from the Tower. The interior of the church is modern.

ST. MARY WOOLNOTH and WOOL-CHURCH HAW, corner of Lombard Street and King William Street. Originally there were two churches, that of St. Mary Woolchurch Haw standing near the Stocks Market, where is now the Mansion House. Stow says this latter church was "so called of a beam placed in the churchyard" . . . for the "weighing of wool there used." This church, being consumed in the Great Fire, was

not rebuilt, the parish being combined with that of St. Mary Woolnoth, the derivation of which is not certainly known, but it is believed that it also had some connection with wool.

St. Mary Woolnoth was damaged in the Fire, but not destroyed. Wren repaired it in 1677, but it had to be pulled down in 1716, the present church being completed in 1727. It is a very beautiful building and contains much of interest, notably a document granting a bequest and dated "from about 1290." The altar, pulpit, and sounding-board are very fine. Many eminent citizens were buried in St. Mary Woolnoth, including Sir Martin Bowes, and Sir Thomas Ramsey, husband of the great benefactress of Christ's Hospital.

ST. MICHAEL, Cornhill. We have no record of the date of foundation of the original church, but according to Stow a new steeple was erected in 1421, with "a fair ring of five bells." Many reparations of this church are recorded, but need not be detailed, as the body was wholly destroyed in the Great Fire. It was rebuilt by Wren, with a new tower, which is a replica of that of Magdalen College, Oxford. Stow himself was born in the parish of St. Michael, and his father and grandfather were buried in the churchyard. The monuments are not of any great interest, but there is much excellent

wood-carving by Rogers, and a pelican on a pedestal attributed to Grinling Gibbons.

ST. MICHAEL PATERNOSTER ROYAL, College Hill, Cannon Street, is believed to have derived its name of Paternoster Royal from two adjacent lanes, Paternoster, and La Rirole, corrupted to Royal, this lane having been much frequented by wine merchants who traded with La Rirole, Bordeaux. An interesting fact connected with the original Church of St. Michael is that it was rebuilt by the famous Lord Mayor Sir Richard Whittington, who also founded the College of St. Spirit and St. Mary, from which College Hill derives its name. Whittington was buried in the chancel of St. Michael's, which he had so greatly benefited. His monument, however, with the church, perished in the Great Fire. The present edifice was built under Wren's supervision by Edward Strong, who completed it in 1694, the steeple being added in 1713. Soon afterwards the parish of St. Michael was united with that of St. Martin in the Vintry, which church was also destroyed, but not re-erected. St. Michael's also serves the parishes of All Hallows the Great and All Hallows the Less. A good deal of the woodwork from All Hallows the Great, which has been demolished, is now to be seen at St. Michael's, with stone figures of Moses and Aaron, which also came from All Hallows.

There is a fine oak altarpiece by Grinling Gibbons, and a memorial window to Whittington, but no monuments of special interest.

ST. MILDRED, Bread Street, Cheapside. That the original church was of very ancient date is certain, for, according to the records, "the Lord Trenchaunt of St. Albans, Knight," was buried there about 1300. Although old St. Mildred's perished in the Great Fire, being rebuilt by Wren in 1683, it is stated that the present church is not greatly changed from the original, and remains practically the same as when Wren erected it. There is much handsome woodwork, the fine oak pulpit and sounding-board being attributed to Grinling Gibbons. United with St. Mildred is the parish of St. Margaret Moses, or Moyses, whose church was not rebuilt. The registers of the parish of St. Mildred, which are kept in a large antique chest, are said to be perfect from 1559. In this church Shelley and Mary Wolstonecraft were married.

ST. NICHOLAS COLE ABBEY, Queen Victoria Street and Knight-riding Street, is now the parochial church of five other parishes, whose churches, with one exception, have disappeared. They are St. Nicholas Olave, St. Mary Somerset, or Summerset, St. Mary Mounthaw, St. Benet, Paul's Wharf (which still stands), and St. Peter, Paul's Wharf. It has been surmised that Cole

Abbey owes its name to one Colby, a founder or restorer. The original edifice was destroyed in the Great Fire, the present church being completed by Wren in 1677. There is some good wood-work. The parish register contains a list of persons touched for "King's Evil" by James II at his coronation.

ST. OLAVE, Hart Street, corner of Seething Lane. Dedicated to Olaf, the second Christian King of Norway of that name, who reigned in the eleventh century. The period of the foundation is unknown. The first mention of the church appears to be in an agreement made between the rector and the "Crouched" Friars in 1319. The present edifice is said to have been erected in the fifteenth century, but the actual date is not known. The church has been repaired many times, during the reign of Charles I and often subsequently. The carved oak pulpit, which is said to be the work of Grinling Gibbons, came from the church of St. Benet Gracechurch, demolished in 1868. There are many memorials, a brass to Sir Richard Haddon, mercer, Lord Mayor 1506-12, being perhaps the earliest. This brass shows the figures of Sir Richard, his wives and children, and has been carefully preserved.

Pepys, who lived near the Navy Office in Seething Lane, regularly attended the services at St. Olave's. In the chancel is a lovely bust in white marble of Pepys's wife, which

he caused to be placed where he could gaze upon it every Sunday. He rests beside his wife in his own vault in the church. His memorial, the cost of which was publicly subscribed, was erected in 1884. It stands where formerly was a gallery in which Pepys worshipped. A medallion is inscribed : "Samuel Pepys, born Feb. 23, 1632, died May 26, 1703." Of the other monuments some are from the church of All Hallows Staining, which were brought to St. Olave's when the former church was demolished.

In the churchyard were interred many victims of the Great Plague, which raged in the neighbourhood.

ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL. The legend that a temple to Diana stood on the site of St. Paul's received no confirmation from Wren, who "rummaged all the ground thereabouts, and being very desirous to find some foot-steps of such a temple, could not discover any." From about A.D. 260, however, there are records that a Christian church stood there, and that it was destroyed in the reign of Diocletian, or possibly about 290. During the reign of Constantine the Great, who died in 337, this church is said to have been rebuilt, to be destroyed later by Saxon invaders, and re-erected, that, or a new one, by Ethelbert, King of Kent, about 604. This church appears to have been repaired and beautified by Bishop Erkenwald in 675, to be burnt

down in 961. Rebuilt, it was again destroyed in 1086. For twenty years Maurice, Bishop of London, worked on its rebuilding, but dying, perforce left the task to others. Twenty years later it was still unfinished, and soon afterwards the choir was burnt down again. Probably the cathedral remained a long time in a ruinous state, for it was not finished until more than 220 years after Bishop Maurice began it, the steeple being completed about 1315. This, the tallest in Europe, or said to be, was constructed of timber covered with lead, and soared into the air 520 feet. Often written of as "Old Powle's," this ancient church was surrounded by a wall with six gates, the principal opening on Ludgate Hill, and another, the "Little Gate," on Cheapside. Within the wall stood Paul's cross and pulpit. Fired by lightning in 1444, the spire, tower, and a great part of the body of the church were consumed in 1561 in another fire, caused, it is said, by the carelessness of a plumber.

During a long period Old St. Paul's was put to uses not at all in accordance with its sacred character. Porters and even pack-animals made use of it as a thoroughfare. Beggars solicited alms, and lawyers clients; tradesmen occupied the chapels and chantries; one vault was occupied by a carpenter, another by a wine-seller. A baker's oven was built against a buttress; noisy children used the great church as a playground, drowning the

preachers' voices ; placards advertising wares disfigured the columns in the aisles ; goods were bought and sold and pockets picked during divine service. Fashionable young men promenaded up and down. Paul's Walk being their meeting-place, they were known as " Paul's Walkers." Naturally the building fell into a sad state of dilapidation. In 1632 Inigo Jones was entrusted with its repair, but the Civil War intervened before the work was completed.

In 1666 occurred the Great Fire of London, which destroyed Old St. Paul's, and with it, 396 acres of houses, 400 streets, 88 other churches, and four of the Old City gates. Wren commenced the present St. Paul's in 1675 ; for thirty-six years the work went on until its completion in 1711. To the top of the cross is 365 feet ; the length of the cathedral is 500 feet ; the width in the transepts 150 feet. There are many fine monuments on the ground-floor and in the crypt, where rest many of Britain's famous men, Nelson, Wellington, Picton, Wolseley, Napier, Reynolds, Turner, Landseer, Millais, Tadema, and Wren himself, over whose tomb is the famous inscription, placed there by his son, which may be translated : " If you would seek his monument, look around."

ST. PETER ON CORNHILL, Cornhill and Gracechurch Street. If the legend of Lucius

could be relied upon, the original church of St. Peter, Cornhill, was the first erected in London, for an inscription on a tablet which hangs in the vestry room begins as follows: "Bee it knowne to all men that the yeare of our Lord God 179 Lucius, the first Christian King of this land then called Britaine, founded the first church in London, that is to say, the Church of St. Peter upon Cornehill." There is much more, which the curious may read on the tablet, but, unfortunately, the authorities say it is not true. That a church existed here in the fourteenth century, and before, is certain, however. The original church having been destroyed in the Great Fire, a very beautiful edifice was erected by Wren in its place in 1680-1. There is a magnificent carved screen, and a fine pulpit and sounding-board, while the walls are panelled to a height of ten feet. In the vestry-room there are, in addition to the tablet concerning King Lucius, a splendidly illuminated Bible, dated 1290, and the keyboard and stops of the old organ, once played upon by Mendelssohn, whose autograph hangs above. The vane on the steeple is in the shape of a key, the emblem of St. Peter.

ST. SEPULCHRE, Holborn Viaduct (Giltspur Street). Of the date of foundation of the original church of St. Sepulchre there appears to be no definite record. In the twelfth century, however, it was given to the Prior

and Canons of St. Bartholomew, a gift confirmed by Henry III in 1253. According to Stow, the church was rebuilt in the reign of Henry VI or of Edward IV "by one of the Pophames." In the Great Fire the larger part of the church was destroyed, and some say that Wren supervised the rebuilding, but this is not certain. There have since been many reparations—in 1738, 1837, 1863, 1875-8, and 1880. In the old church were buried Roger Ascham, Queen Elizabeth's tutor, and Captain John Smith, "some time Governor of Virginia," who died in 1631. In 1605 Robert Dowe left a sum of money to the church for that on every execution day at Newgate, a person should visit the window of the condemned prisoner's dungeon, and there ring a hand-bell with twelve double strokes to call attention to a discourse which the person was afterwards to deliver "with a loud and audible voice" to the prisoners, to impress them with a proper sense of their condition. It was further stipulated that St. Sepulchre's largest bell should toll as a passing-bell on execution mornings. The church has a very imposing appearance, and before the construction of Holborn Viaduct possessed a very large churchyard from which many bodies were exhumed in 1871 and removed to the City Cemetery at Ilford.

ST. STEPHEN, Coleman Street. Stow says that the original church was "sometime a

synagogue of the Jews," but this is not proved. It is certain, however that it was sometime a chapel to St. Olave Jewry, which fact probably accounts for the synagogue legend. That the church dates back to before 1182 is also certain. It became a parish church in 1466, but was destroyed in the Great Fire, the present church being the work of Wren. There is a very curious carving over the entrance gateway from Coleman Street. It is in high relief, and represents the Day of Judgment. Munday, who continued Stow's Survey, was buried in this church in 1633, but his monument perished in the Fire. The interior is very plain, but there is some good wood-work.

ST. STEPHEN, WALBROOK (back of the Mansion House), is rated by many as a masterpiece of Wren's work, only surpassed by St. Paul's Cathedral. In the reign of Henry I (1100-35) the original church of St. Stephen, Walbrook, was given to the monastery of St. John of Colchester. How long it had then been in existence is unknown. There are records of a rebuilding in the reign of Henry VI (1422-61). Repaired in Charles I's reign (1625-49), it was wholly destroyed in the Fire of London, 1666. After the Fire the parish was combined with that of St. Benet Sherehog (St. Benedict Sherehog), a curious name which has a history of its own. St. Stephen, Walbrook was completed by Wren in 1679,

and has been described as a great cathedral in miniature.

There is a fine picture by Benjamin West of the Martyrdom of St. Stephen, some good glass by Gibbs and also by Willement, and some striking monuments. Sir John Vanbrugh, famous both as dramatist and architect, being the author of the comedy *The Provok'd Wife*, and also of the magnificent Blenheim Palace (see his Biography in this little book) is buried in St. Stephen's, of which an authority has declared that it is "totally impossible to convey by words any adequate impression of the loveliness of this delightful church."

ST. SWITHIN BY LONDON STONE, Cannon Street, which was destroyed in the Great Fire, was rebuilt by Wren in 1678, and repaired in 1869 and 1879, during which reparations the church was much modernised. Perhaps the most interesting adjunct to this church is the London Stone, with regard to which there has been much controversy, but is said to have been the central Roman milestone, from which all the distances in Britain were measured. It was originally much larger and stood on the other side of Cannon (Candlewick) Street. There it was fixed so deeply in the earth, that Stow says: "If carts do run against it through negligence the wheels be broken, and the stone itself unshaken." London Stone was placed in its present position in 1798.

ST. VEDAST, Foster Lane, Cheapside, is dedicated to a Bishop of Arras of that name, and of the sixth century. Formerly known as St. Fauster's, the church was enlarged in 1614; but being severely damaged in the Great Fire, was rebuilt by Wren. The most recent restoration appears to have been carried out in 1885. There is a fine oak altarpiece attributed to Grinling Gibbons, also a well-carved pulpit and sounding-board. The church now serves the parish of St. Michaelle-Querne, so called from a corn-market which was formerly held near by, the Church of St. Michael being destroyed in the Fire and not rebuilt. Two other neighbouring churches also perished, St. Matthew, Friday Street, and St. Peter in Cheapside, whose parishes are likewise united with that of St. Vedast. In St. Matthew's churchyard Sir Hugh Myddelton was buried in 1631. The Church of St. Peter in Cheapside was formerly called "St. Peter at the Cross in Cheape," from the cross to Queen Eleanor which Edward I caused to be erected near by. Robert Herrick, the poet, was baptized at St. Vedast's in 1591.

CHAPTER VII

SHORT BIOGRAPHIES IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER
OF A HUNDRED CITIZENS "OF CREDIT AND
RENOWN"

LEST it be thought that there was a dearth in Old London of Worthies to whom the above description is applicable, we hasten, at the head of these brief records, to remark that their number might easily have been multiplied many times, did considerations of space permit, which is not the case. So, if there are vexing omissions, there is a reason.

ALLEN, SIR THOMAS. Grocer. Born, Hatfield Peverel. Knighted by Charles II at Restoration. Appointed Head of Commission for trying Regicides. Lord Mayor, 1652. Was a magnificent personage, and his "Show" was equally magnificent. Must have been a splendid advertisement for his trade, it being understood that the Grocers were the Drug-gists and Spice Merchants of that period. This "Show" has been described as an open-air lecture on the *materia medica*. It comprised a number of scenes of the countries where the Grocer's commodities do grow,

with natives disporting themselves therein—a clove tree, a nutmeg tree, a “current” tree, growing rice, “Rasons, figgs, and druggs, negars, an Egyptian riding on a Crockodile,” and much else. The Egyptian spoke a piece, which concluded as follows:

“With *sena* and *china* and *rhubarb* so good,
All the next I can tell a
Is *sarsaparella*,
Which strengthens the body and cleanseth the blood.”

Sir Thomas died 1690. Buried, Totteridge.

ARNE, DR. THOMAS AUGUSTINE.
Musician. Born, King Street, Covent Garden. Son of Upholsterer. Educated Eton. Apprenticed to Attorney. Produced first musical work—Addison’s *Rosamond*—Lincoln’s Inn Fields Theatre, 1733. Name-part played by sister, afterwards famous as Mrs. Cibber. Other works followed, Milton’s *Comus*, Drury Lane, 1738; *Masque of Alfred*, 1740, containing famous air “Rule Britannia.” Same year composed music for *As You Like It*, including famous settings of “Blow, blow, thou winter wind,” “Under the Greenwood Tree,” and “When Daisies Pied.” Appointed Leader of Orchestra, Drury Lane, 1744. Composer for Vauxhall Gardens, 1745. Composed Pastoral *Colin and Phoebe*, and song “Where The Bee Sucks,” etc. Received Degree Mus. Doc., Oxford, 1759. Left Drury Lane for Covent Garden, 1760. Died, 1778. Buried, St. Paul’s, Covent Garden.

BACKWELL, EDWARD. Goldsmith and Banker. Alderman, 1657. Was employed on new coinage for Commonwealth with milled edge and Cromwell's head. Paymaster and Treasurer Dunkirk garrison until town sold to French King, 1662. Was Banker for Oliver Cromwell, Charles II, the Queen, Prince of Orange, and Samuel Pepys the Diarist. Also for East India Company, Goldsmiths' Company, etc. Backwell's was one of first Clearing Banks. Removed to Lombard Street, 1654. Traded at the Sign of the Unicorn, and at the Grasshopper after Great Fire, when, his premises having been burnt down, he was given lodgings in Gresham College. Is mentioned twenty-six times in Pepys's Diary. His Bank weathered many storms. Backwell lost over £295,000 on closing of Exchequer. Died, 1683. Buried, St. Mary Woolnoth's.

BAILY, FRANCIS. Member of Stock Exchange. Actuary and famous Astronomer. Born, Newbury, Berks, 1774. Travelled in wilds of North America, 1796-7. Entered London Stock Exchange, 1799. Published *Tables for Purchasing and Renewing of Leases* (1802); *The Doctrine of Interest and Annuities* (1808); *The Doctrine of Life Annuities and Assurances* (1810), etc., which gained him a high reputation as a writer on Life Contingencies. Retired from Stock Exchange, 1825, to devote himself entirely to Astronomy. Assisted to found Royal

Astronomical Society. Attained to greatest eminence as an Astronomer. Died, 1844.

BAKER, HENRY. Naturalist. Born, London, 1698. Apprenticed to Bookseller. Invented System of Instruction for Deaf and Dumb. Married daughter of Daniel Defoe, with whom he commenced the *Universal Spectator and Weekly Journal*. Was a Founder of Society of Arts, 1754. Wrote several volumes of verse, the *Microscope Made Easy*, etc. Name perpetuated by Bakerian Lecture of Royal Society, for foundation of which he left £100. Died, London, 1774.

BAMME, ADAM. Goldsmith, Lord Mayor, and City Worthy. He was twice Lord Mayor, 1390 and 1396. In time of great famine he took 3,000 marks out of the Orphans' Chest in the Guildhall and persuaded each of the Aldermen to add £20. With the money he imported corn to London in such abundance as not only to supply the City, but the adjacent country. Died during last mayoralty, Sir Richard Whittington being appointed by the King to complete the term.

BARBON, NICHOLAS. Economist. Born, London, about 1640. Said to have been the son of "Praise God Barebones," of Fetter Lane. Educated and studied Medicine at Leyden; graduated M.D. at Utrecht, 1661.

Hon. Fellow, College of Physicians, 1664. Assisted to rebuild London after Great Fire, and it is claimed that he was the originator of Fire Insurance in England, which he instituted, 1680. M.P. for Bramber, 1690-5. Founded a Land Bank. Wrote extensively on topics far in advance of his period, as Values, Rent, and Foreign Trade. Died, 1698.

BARHAM, REV. RICHARD HARRIS (Thomas Ingoldsby). Born, Canterbury, 1788. Educated, St. Paul's School, and Brasenose, Oxford. Appointed Minor Canon, St. Paul's Cathedral, 1821. Resided Amen Corner. Afterwards appointed Priest of Chapel Royal, and received a City living. Contributed to *Blackwood's*, 1826. Commenced *The Ingoldsby Legends* in Bentley's *Miscellany*, 1837. Died at Amen Corner, 1845.

BARRY, SIR CHARLES. Architect. Born, London, 1793. Son of a Stationer. Travelled widely in Europe studying Architecture. Practised as Architect in London with great success. Designed and built Houses of Parliament, etc. Sir John Wolfe Barry, his son, built the Tower Bridge.

BECKET, THOMAS A. Churchman, Chancellor, and Archbishop of Canterbury. Born at corner of Old Jewry and Cheapside, or so it is recorded, about 1118. Son of Norman emigrant, who held office of port-reeve.

Educated at Merton Priory, Surrey, at London Schools, and Paris, where studied Theology. Accompanied Theobald, Archbishop of Canterbury, to Rome, 1143, and to Council of Rheims, 1148. Appointed Archdeacon of Canterbury, 1154, and Chancellor, 1155. Commanded Company of Knights in Toulouse Campaign, 1159. Negotiated Treaty of Peace with France, 1160. On death of Theobald, Henry II appointed him Archbishop, 1162. After many disputes with the King due to his uncompromising attitude in Church matters he fled to France, where he sought the aid of the Pope, who eventually granted him power of excommunication, which he exercised on various dignitaries. Returning to England, 1170, he was slain within a month in Canterbury Cathedral by over-zealous friends of the King. In a short time his shrine became so famous as to be the object of many pilgrimages. Was canonised, 1172.

BENTHAM, JEREMY. Philosopher and Jurist. Born, Red Lion Street, Houndsditch, 1748. Son of an Attorney. Educated privately, at Westminster School, and Queen's, Oxford. Was a boy prodigy. Read Rapin's *History* at three years of age, and began the study of Latin. A year or two later learned the violin and French. Matriculated at thirteen. B.A. at fifteen, 1763. Entered Lincoln's Inn and took his seat as student,

Queen's Bench. Was a failure at the Bar, as he spent his time in chemical research. Travelled in Italy, Turkey, and Russia. Published great work, *Principles of Morals and Legislation*, 1789. For many years was engaged on a scheme in connection with transportation of convicts. This was eventually abandoned, Bentham receiving £23,000 as compensation. Later he formulated schemes for canals through the Isthmuses of Suez and Panama. Established *Westminster Review*, 1823. Died, 1832. Bequeathed his body for dissection. His skeleton is preserved at University College.

BIRKBECK, GEORGE. Physician and Philanthropist. Born, Yorkshire, 1776. Came to London from Glasgow, 1804. Resided Finsbury Square, where he began his philanthropic endeavours. Assisted to found Mechanics' Institute, 1823, afterwards known as the Birkbeck Institution or College. Was appointed Director, having originally endowed the Institute with £3,700. Died, 1841.

BOLEYN, SIR GEOFFREY. Mercer and Lord Mayor. Born, Salle, Norfolk. Kept shop in Old Jewry. Was Lord Mayor in 1457. Grandfather of Queen Anne Boleyn, therefore great-grandfather of Queen Elizabeth. Was a most generous benefactor to the City both in life and after his death. He left £1,000 to poor City householders, and

£2,000 to poor householders of Norfolk. Bequeathed considerable sums to prisons, hospitals, and lazar-houses. Died about 1463. Buried, St. Lawrence Jewry.

BOYDELL, JOHN. Engraver. Born, 1719, Dorrington, Shropshire. Son of a Land Surveyor. Walked to London. Apprenticed himself to an Engraver. Lord Mayor, 1790. The first Lord Mayor who ever attained that position through a book, and probably the last. His first published work was entitled *The Bridge Book*, which may have been the work referred to. Founded the English School of Engraving, published the *Shakespeare Gallery*, and worked most industriously for English Art all his life. His portrait hangs in the Council Chamber, Guildhall. Died, 1805.

BRAMAH, JOSEPH. Famous Inventor. Born, Yorkshire, 1748. Son of a Farmer. Worked as Cabinet-maker, London, where commenced business. Patented the "Bramah" lock, 1784. Invented hydraulic press, 1795. Devised for Bank of England numerical printing machine for bank-notes, 1806. Amongst other important inventions of Bramah's were: the beer engine, an aerated water machine, planing machines, paper-making machinery, and improvements in steam engines and boilers. Was the first to suggest screw propulsion for ships, 1785,

and hydraulic transmission of power, 1802. Constructed water-works at Norwich. Died, London, 1814.

BRANDER, GUSTAVUS. Merchant and Naturalist. Born, London, 1720. Achieved great success as a Merchant and was a Director of Bank of England. Devoted his leisure to scientific pursuits. Elected F.R.S. 1754, and Trustee of British Museum. Made a special study of fossils and gathered together a large collection, which he presented to the Museum. Died, 1787.

BURBAGE, JAMES. Actor. Said to have been born Stratford-on-Avon. Principal of Earl of Leicester's Players, 1574. Built "The Theatre" in Holywell Street, Shoreditch, 1576. Also took part in erection of "The Curtain," another theatre in same neighbourhood. Afterwards built the "Blackfriars Theatre," 1596. Died, 1597.

BURBAGE, RICHARD. Actor. Born about 1567. Son of James Burbage (see above), and said also to have been born at Stratford-on-Avon. First appeared at a very early age at one of his father's theatres. At twenty years of age had acquired a great reputation as an Actor. Owing to law-suit concerning the site of "The Theatre," he pulled down the building and used the materials in the erection of the "Globe

Theatre," for all time famous for its connection with Shakespeare, who is said to have been a partner in the enterprise. Was Painter as well as Actor, the Felton portrait of Shakespeare being attributed to him. Died, 1619.

CAMDEN, WILLIAM. Historian. Born, Old Bailey, 1551. Son of Painter-stainer. Educated Christ-church Hospital and Magdalen, Oxford. Second Master Westminster School, 1575. Gave much time to Antiquarian study. Head-master, Westminster School, 1593. Richmond Herald and Clarenceux King-at-Arms, 1596. Wrote *Britannia*; the *History of Elizabeth*, etc. From him the "Camden Society" took its name. Died, 1623. Buried, Westminster Abbey.

CANYNGE, SIR THOMAS. Grocer. Son of ———Canynge, one time Mayor of and M.P. for Bristol. Sir Thomas was Master of Grocers' Company, 1456. Lord Mayor, 1456. Took an active part in suppression of Jack Cade's Rebellion. Petitioned Henry VI for recompense for danger incurred in drawing Cade's body on hurdle through streets. Fined £40 and dismissed from office for so-called contumacy and "inobedience" towards Mayor and Aldermen, 1461. Died, Bristol. Buried, St. Thomas's, Bristol.

CAVENDISH, HENRY. Scientist and Philosopher. Born, 1731. Educated Hackney, and Peterhouse, Cambridge. Devoted career to Experimental Philosophy. Converted oxygen and hydrogen. Found difference between animal and common electricity. Weighed the World. Inherited large fortune, but remained a misogynist and recluse. Established Observatory and Laboratory, Clapham Common. Also near British Museum. Died, 1810, leaving £1,750,000.

CHAUCER, GEOFFREY. "Father of English Poetry." Born, Thames Street, about 1338. Son of Wine Merchant. Educated Cambridge, and Merton, Oxford. Studied Law, Middle Temple. A favourite at Court of Edward III. Was King's Shield-bearer. Committed to Tower for high treason in next reign, when wrote his *Testament of Love*. On death of Richard II became a greater favourite at Court than before. Married a sister of wife of John of Gaunt. Famous for all time as author of *The Canterbury Tales*. Died, 1400. Buried, Westminster Abbey.

CHILD, SIR FRANCIS. Goldsmith and Banker. Son of Robert Child, of Headington, Wilts. Apprenticed to a Goldsmith, 1657. Married Elizabeth Wheeler, 1671. So succeeded to business of the Wheelers at the Marygold, Fleet Street, where Blanchard and

Child kept "running cashes," 1677. Francis Child, the industrious apprentice, having married William Wheeler's only daughter, and Blanchard the widow Wheeler, thus it came about that on Blanchard's death, Francis Child inherited both the Wheeler and Blanchard fortunes. He was first Banker to give up goldsmith's business, and has been termed the "Father of the Profession." Knighted and Alderman, 1689. Lord Mayor, 1698-9. President, Christ's Hospital, 1702. M.P. for City. Died, 1713. Buried, Fulham.

CHILD, SIR JOSIAH. Merchant. Son of Richard Child, London Merchant, to whom he was apprenticed. Became Governor of East India Company, and made a huge fortune by "shaking the Pagoda tree." Incurred the strictures of Lord Macaulay, and we are not sure that strictly he can be described as a "Citizen of credit and renown." But was a very able business man. Wrote *Brief Observations concerning Trade and the Interest of Money*. Also *A New Discourse of Trade*. Was an authority on Economics, and an early Free Trader. Died, 1699.

CLAYTON, SIR ROBERT. Scrivener and Draper. Born, Bulwick, Northamptonshire. Son of—Cleeton. Lord Mayor, 1679-80. One of most remarkable men of his day, represented City of London in six Parliaments, Borough of Bletchingley in three. President

and Benefactor, St. Thomas's Hospital; projected Mathematical School, Christ's Hospital; rebuilt south front, 1682; Director, Bank of England; Governor, Irish Society; described by Evelyn as "Prince of Citizens," there never having been any who, for the stateliness of his palace, his prodigious feasting and magnificence, exceeded him." Received William III in name of City of London. One of the few men to whom a statue was erected in his life-time. Also one of the very few men who owed his life to the infamous Judge Jeffreys. Died, 1707.

COCKERELL, CHARLES ROBERT. Architect. Born, London, 1788. Studied ancient architecture in Greece, Italy, and Asia Minor. Carried out excavations and enriched British Museum. Associate, Royal Academy, 1829. Architect to Bank of England, and carried out alterations. Wrote a tribute to the memory of Sir Christopher Wren and published a collection of whole of Wren's works drawn to one scale. Died, 1863.

COLET, DR. JOHN. Eminent Divine. Born, London, about 1467. Son of Sir Henry Colet, who was Lord Mayor in 1486 and 1495. Educated, St. Anthony's School, and Magdalen, Oxford. Friend of Erasmus, to whom he granted an annuity. Canon of St. Martin's-le-grand, London; Dean of St. Paul's, 1505. Re-founded and endowed St.

Paul's School. Held in great esteem by Henry VIII, who appointed him Chaplain. Made the Canterbury Pilgrimage, 1514. Preached at installation of Cardinal Wolsey. Although member of Roman Church, was a keen reformer. Died, 1519. Buried, St. Paul's Cathedral.

COOPER, SAMUEL. Miniature Painter. Born, London, 1609. Said to have been the greatest painter of miniatures that ever lived. Received £30 for painting Pepys's "poor wretch." A number of specimens of his finest work are in the collection formed by the late J. Pierpont Morgan.

COWLEY, ABRAHAM. Poet and Dramatist. Born, Fleet Street, 1618. Son of Stationer. King's Scholar, Westminster School, afterwards Trinity, Cambridge. Left University on outbreak of Civil War. After death of Charles I, accompanied Royal family abroad. At Restoration Charles II gave him an estate at Chertsey, Surrey. Wrote the *Pindarique Odes*, the *Davideis*, the *Chronicle*, etc. Died, 1667. Buried, Westminster Abbey.

COWPER, WILLIAM. Poet. Born, Hertfordshire, 1731. Educated Westminster School. Called to Bar and resided in Temple. Much oppressed by melancholy, and retired to an asylum for a period. Wrote *The Diverting History of John Gilpin* (which

accounts for his inclusion here) and *The Task*. Died, 1800. Buried, East Dereham.

CROSBY, BRASS. Solicitor, Goldsmith, and Champion of the Press. Born, Stockton. Articled to a Solicitor and practised in the City. Lord Mayor, 1770. M.P. for Honiton. The Speaker of House of Commons having issued a warrant against the printers of the *Middlesex Journal* and the *Gazetteer* for publishing the Debates in the House, the printers refused to attend, and on being arrested, were discharged. Accused of the same offence, the printer of the *Evening Post* appealed to the Lord Mayor, Brass Crosby. On the Sergeant-at-Arms coming to the Mansion House to demand the printer's body, the Lord Mayor told him that he was the guardian of his fellow citizens' liberties, and no power on earth should seize a citizen without authority. He discharged the printer and committed the Sergeant-at-Arms's messenger for assault, etc. For this and other bold proceedings Crosby was eventually committed to the Tower. On his speedy release amidst much excitement, there were great rejoicings and the City was illuminated. Since when the House of Commons has never again assailed the liberty of the Press.

CROSBY, SIR JOHN. Grocer. Born about 1410. Son of John Crosby, gentleman of

Chamber to Henry IV. Kept shop in Cony Hoop Lane, Cheapside. Freeman of Grocers' Company, 1452. M.P. for City of London, 1466. Same year acquired from Prioress of Convent of St. Helen's a lease of the land on which he erected the magnificent house which will be known for all time as Crosby Place. It stood in what is now Great St. Helen's, is mentioned by Shakespeare, and if it is true that Shakespeare once lived in St. Helen's, must have been very familiar to him. The hall of this splendid palace, which afterwards was the residence of the Duke of Gloucester (Richard III), has been re-erected at Chelsea. John Crosby was knighted by Edward IV after the Battle of Tewkesbury, 1471. Died, 1475. Buried, St. Helen's, where a handsome monument to himself and his first wife remains.

DANCE, GEORGE. Architect. Born, 1700. Appointed Architect to City of London and designed the Mansion House, 1739. Was also Architect for the Churches of St. Botolph, Aldgate, 1741; St. Luke, Old Street; St. Leonard, Shoreditch; and other important buildings. Died, 1768.

DANCE, GEORGE (the Younger). Architect. Born, 1741, London. Succeeded his father (see above) as City Surveyor and Architect, 1768. Rebuilt Newgate Prison, 1770; designed the front of Guildhall. Foundation

Member, Royal Academy, and last survivor of the forty original Members. Devoted his last years to Portraiture rather than Architecture. After 1798 his contributions to the Academy consisted of chalk portraits of his friends, seventy-two of which were engraved and published. Died, 1825. Buried, St. Paul's Cathedral.

DEFOE, DANIEL. Author. Born, St. Giles, Cripplegate, 1661. Son of James Foe, Butcher. Educated for Ministry, Newington. Kept shop as a Hosier, Freeman's Court, Cornhill. Wrote popular political pamphlets which led to pillory, where pelted with flowers. Found refuge abroad after participating in Duke of Monmouth's Rebellion. Returned London, added nobiliary particle "de" to name, and (1719) wrote world-famous book, *Robinson Crusoe*, to delight of countless millions. Died, 1731. Buried, Bunhill Fields.

DIBDIN, CHARLES. Famous Song-Writer. Born, Southampton, 1745. Son of a Parish Clerk. Educated, Winchester, where Chorister at Cathedral. Came to London, 1760. Obtained employment in Music Warehouse, Cheapside. Joined Chorus at Covent Garden. Wrote and composed *The Shepherd's Artifice*, produced, Covent Garden, 1762. Went to Drury Lane. There produced *The*

Waterman, 1774. Left Drury Lane owing to quarrel with Garrick. Joint Manager of Royal Circus, afterwards the Surrey Theatre, 1782. Produced *Liberty Hall*, in which are his songs "The Highmettled Racer" and "The Bells of Aberdovey," at Drury Lane, 1785. Wrote his immortal song, "Tom Bowling," on the death of his sailor-brother, Tom, who died on his way home from India. During the War with France he devoted his attention to sea-songs, which kept up the spirits of the British sailors wonderfully. For his great services he received a pension from the Government of £200 a year. Died, London, 1814.

EASTFIELD, SIR WILLIAM. Mercer. Born, Tickhill, Yorks. Kept shop in Aldermanbury. Sheriff, 1422. Lord Mayor, 1429 and 1437. A public-spirited citizen, well worthy of mention. Of him Stow writes as follows: "Sir William Eastfield [was] a great Benefactor to that Church [St. Mary Aldermanbury], lies buried under a fair monument; he also builded their Steeple, changed their old Bells into five tuneable Bells, and gave one hundred pounds to other works of that Church. Moreover, he caused the Conduit in Aldermanbury, which he had begun, to be performed at his Charges and Water to be conveyed by it from Teyborne to Fleet Street, and also from High Bery to the Parish of St. Giles without Cripplegate."

FECKENHAM, JOHN DE. Priest, and last Abbot of Westminster. Born about 1515, at Feckenham, Worcestershire. Son of Yeoman Farmer named Howman, but took the name of his birthplace. Educated Feckenham, Evesham, and Gloucester Hall, Oxford. Appointed Chaplain to Bishops Bell and Bonner. Dean of St. Paul's, 1554. Took part in the controversy with Cranmer, Latimer, and Ridley, and did his best to obtain their pardons. Ministered to Lady Jane Grey when under sentence. Interceded for Elizabeth when Queen Mary sent her to the Tower. Reopened Westminster School on being appointed Abbot, and repaired the shrine of Edward the Confessor. Was sent to the Tower, 1560, for refusing to take the Oath of Supremacy on the Accession of Elizabeth. Except for brief periods, Feckenham spent the rest of his life in prison, or as a prisoner at large. Notwithstanding this disability, his benevolence was great. He set up a public aqueduct in Holborn, a Hospice for the Poor at Bath, distributed every day to the sick the milk of twelve cows, took care of orphans, and encouraged manly sports among the youth of London. A broad-minded, honest citizen. He died at Wisbeach, 1584. Buried in an unknown grave.

FITCH, RALPH. Merchant and Traveller. Born about 1556. In course of trading voyages to the East, he visited Aleppo and

Tripoli, descended the Euphrates, crossed Mesopotamia to Bagdad, sailed down the Tigris to Basra, and down the Persian Gulf to Ormuz, where he was arrested as a spy at the instigation of Venice and sent prisoner to Goa. Escaping, he travelled through the heart of India to the Court of Akbar, at Agra, 1585-6. Descended the Jumna and the Ganges, visiting Patna, Benares, Kuch Behar, Chittagong, etc. Voyaged by sea to Pegu and Burma, visited Rangoon, descended the Irrawadi, and even penetrated to the Siamese Shan States, 1586-7. Reappeared, London, 1591. Was adviser to East India Company, to whom he rendered the greatest services, and was no mean instrument in the eventual acquisition by Britain of its great Indian Empire. He also rendered great assistance to the Levant Company. Died, 1606.

FITZ-OSBERT, WILLIAM. Democrat. Born, London, about 1150. Took part in Third Crusade. On his return to London he championed the cause of the Poor against the Rich, and particularly those in Authority. Was implicitly trusted by poorer citizens, redress for whom in the matter of unjust taxes he endeavoured to obtain from the King. The City magistrates, however, persuaded Hubert Walter, the Justiciar, that Fitz-Osbert meditated wholesale robbery. In consequence soldiers were sent to seize him. He took sanctuary in the Church of St. Mary-

le-Bow, but was smoked out and summarily dragged to Tyburn, where he was executed, 1196.

FITZWILLIAM, SIR WILLIAM. Merchant Taylor and Alderman. Born, probably at Milton, Northamptonshire. Was disfranchised for declining to serve as sheriff. Had been a servant of Cardinal Wolsey, whom, on the latter's downfall, he entertained. Called to account by Henry VIII for this hospitality, he so answered the King that he was knighted on the spot and made a Privy Councillor. He died, 1542, Knight of the Garter, Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal and Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, leaving many benefactions, To Poor Maids' Marriages, £100; to the Universities, £40; to the Poor, £30; to mend highways in Essex, £50; to mend other highways, £50; to his brethren, the Merchant Taylors, his best standing cup in memory of him for ever.

GARTH, SIR SAMUEL. Poet and Physician. Born, 1661. Educated, Cambridge. Elected Member College of Physicians, 1691. Advocated Dispensaries for Sick Poor in Harveian Oration, 1697. Member Kit-Kat Club. Knighted, 1714, by George I. Died, 1719.

GAY, JOHN. Poet and Dramatist. Born, Barnstaple, 1685. Educated Barnstaple.

Apprenticed to Mercer in London. Wrote *Rural Sports*, dedicated to Pope, 1713. Same year produced Comedy, *The Wife of Bath*. By influence of Swift, appointed Secretary British Ambassador at Court of Hanover. Ventured heavily in South Sea stock and nearly ruined. Helped by friends, Pope, Arbuthnot, Congreve, and others. His *Beggar's Opera* was produced by Rich, 1728. Ran sixty-two nights, and "made Gay rich, and Rich gay." Wrote sequel, *Polly*, forbidden by Lord Chancellor, a very fine advertisement. Wrote *Trivia*, etc. Died, 1732. Buried, Westminster Abbey.

GERARD, JOHN. Barber-Surgeon and Herbalist. Born, Nantwich, 1545. Came to London, where he practised. Superintended Lord Burghley's gardens in London and at Theobalds. In own garden at Holborn cultivated 1,039 different plants. Published *Gerard's Herball*, 1597. Elected Member of Court of Assistants, Barber-Surgeons, 1595. Appointed Master, 1608. Died, 1612. Buried, St. Andrew's, Holborn.

GIBBONS, GRINLING. Wood-carver and Sculptor. Born, London, 1648. At one time had workshop in La Belle Sauvage Yard. John Evelyn recommended him to Charles II, who employed him in wood-carving and statuary. Designed base of Charles I's statue at Charing Cross. Worked for Sir Christopher

Wren, and some of his marvellous carvings in wood may be seen in the Choir of St. Paul's Cathedral, at St. George's Chapel, Windsor, and in many City churches and famous mansions. Appointed Master-carver to George I. Died, 1721.

GILBERT, WILLIAM. Physician and Scientist. Born, Colchester, 1544. Educated Colchester and St. John's, Cambridge. Admitted College of Physicians and became Physician to Queen Elizabeth, 1601. Resided Peter's Hill, near College of Physicians, between Upper Thames Street and Little Knight-rider Street. President of College, 1599. Travelled in Italy and elsewhere and was probably most distinguished scientist in England during reign of Elizabeth. Wrote famous treatise on Magnetism. Invented instruments to enable sailors to steer without reference to the stars. Died, 1603, supposed of Plague. Left books and instruments, etc., to the College. Destroyed in Great Fire.

GOLDSMITH, OLIVER. Poet and Dramatist. Born, Ireland, 1728. Son of a Curate. Educated, Trinity Coll., Dublin. B.A. 1749. Sampled various professions. Nearly starved as a Doctor at Bankside. Eventually settled down as an Author. Found many good friends—Dr. Johnson, Sir Joshua Reynolds, Burke, and many others. Resided at various

addresses in the City: Wine Office Court, Fleet Street; the Inner Temple; Green Arbur Court, Old Bailey, etc. Wrote *The Vicar of Wakefield* (which Johnson sold for £60, using part of the money to pay off a Sheriff's officer who was holding Goldsmith for a debt for rent), "The Deserted Village," a poem which some consider equal to Gray's "Elegy," and the Comedy, *She Stoops to Conquer*, etc. Died, 1774. Buried, the Temple Churchyard. Cenotaph, Westminster Abbey.

GRAY, THOMAS. Poet. Born, Cornhill, 1716. Mother a Milliner. Educated Eton, and Peterhouse, Cambridge. Friend of Horace Walpole. After father's death resided at Stoke Poges, Bucks, where wrote what many consider the finest poem in the English language, "An Elegy written in a Country Churchyard," which has immortalised him. Died, 1771. Buried Stoke Poges Churchyard, the scene of the famous "Elegy."

GRESHAM, SIR RICHARD. Mercer, Merchant, and Lord Mayor. Born, Holt, Norfolk. Son of John Gresham. Apprenticed to Mercer. Very successful as Merchant, Goldsmith, and Banker, became Financial Agent and Gentleman Extraordinary to Henry VIII. It is claimed that he was the first to advocate the building of an Exchange, which idea was carried out by his famous son, Sir Thomas Gresham. Sir Richard appears to

have been the first Free Trader. Died, Bethnal Green. Buried, St. Lawrence Jewry.

GRESHAM, SIR THOMAS. Goldsmith and Merchant. Born, London, 1519. Son of Sir Richard Gresham, Mercer. Educated, Caius, Cambridge. Apprenticed to uncle, Sir John Gresham, Merchant. Admitted Member Mercers' Company, 1543. Agent and Banker for Henry VIII, Edward VI, Mary and Elizabeth. Introduced the Orange to England. Founded first Royal Exchange, and Gresham College. Died, 1579. Buried, St. Helen's, Bishopsgate.

GUY, THOMAS. Bookseller, Speculator, and Philanthropist. Born, Fair Street, Tooley Street, 1644. Son of Coal-dealer and Lighterman. Apprenticed to Bookseller. Kept shop in Lombard Street as Bookseller from 1668. Made large fortune in South Sea Company. Built three Wards of St. Thomas's Hospital, 1707. Built Guy's Hospital at cost of about £19,000. Endowed it with about £219,000. Endowed Christ's Hospital with £400 per annum. Died, 1724.

HALLEY, EDMUND, Astronomer. Born, Shoreditch, 1656. Son of a Soap-boiler. Educated, St. Paul's School and Oxford. Voyaged to Island of St. Helena to study the fixed stars. Also in the Atlantic to study the variations of the needle. Discovered "Halley's

Comet," which returns every seventy-five years. Died, 1742. Buried, Lee, Kent.

HANWAY, JONAS. Traveller, Merchant, and Philanthropist. Born, Portsmouth, 1712. Apprenticed to Lisbon Merchant. Travelled in Russia, Persia, Germany, etc. Settled, London, and devoted himself to good citizenship and philanthropic works. Governor of Foundling Hospital. Founded the Marine Society, and the Magdalen Hospital. Commissioner for victualling Navy, 1783. Championed the little chimney sweeps and did much to ameliorate their hardships. Notwithstanding his many philanthropic activities, seems to be best remembered as the first man to carry an umbrella in the streets of London. Died, 1786.

HICKS, SIR BAPTIST. Mercer, Son of Robert Hicks, Mercer, at the Sign of the White Bear, Queen Street, Cheapside. Sir Baptist received his knighthood from James I, 1607; elected Alderman, 1611. Gave great offence to the Aldermen by continuing in the retail trade after having been knighted, which reads curiously in these democratic days. His defence was that he had ceased to take an active part in the business. That his continuing in the retail trade did not affect his career is proved by his being

created a Baronet in 1620, and Baron Hicks and Viscount Campden, 1628. Bequeathed large sums for charity and education. Built Sessions Hall for Middlesex, long known as "Hicks's Hall." Died, 1639.

HILLE, SIR THOMAS. Grocer. Born, Helston, Kent. Son of William Hill. Was Lord Mayor, 1484. After Bosworth Field he welcomed Henry VII, at the head of the Aldermen in their scarlet robes, and a large number of mounted citizens, all in violet gowns, and conducted him to St. Paul's. In his will Sir Thomas ordered the Gracechurch water-conduit to be constructed at his cost, with the cost of the conveyance of the water. Died of "sweating sickness," 1485. Buried, St. Thomas Acons (Mercers' Chapel), Cheapside.

HOGARTH, WILLIAM. Painter. Born Ship Court, Old Bailey, 1697. Son of Schoolmaster. Apprenticed to Silver-plate Engraver. Commenced business, 1720. Said to have sold etchings and sketches of London life to Mr. Bowles of the Black Horse, Cornhill, by weight—at half a crown a pound. Overton of the Golden Buck, Fleet Street, published a number of his early plates, including his illustrations to *Hudibras*. Became known as a painter in oils about 1727. Protégé of Sir James Thornhill, painter. Fell in love with Thornhill's daughter, ran away with

and married her, 1729. Painted a vast number of works which are great moral lessons to-day, including "The Harlot's Progress," "The Rake's Progress," etc. Died, 1764.

JONES, INIGO. Architect. Born, 1572, near St. Paul's. Son of a Clothworker. Apprenticed to a joiner. His skill in drawing attracted attention of a nobleman, either Earl of Arundel or Earl of Pembroke, who sent him to study in Italy. Acquired great reputation at Venice. Invited to Denmark by Christian IV, 1604. Designed royal palaces. Appointed Architect, James I, the Queen, and Prince Henry, 1605. Appointed Surveyor-General of royal buildings by James I, 1612. Prepared designs for new palace at Whitehall. Investigated origin of Stonehenge, 1620. Appointed Commissioner for repair of St. Paul's. Enjoyed same offices under Charles I. Fined heavily after Civil War as malignant. Died, 1651. Buried, St. Benet's, Paul's Wharf.

JOHNSON, DR. SAMUEL. Lexicographer. Born, Lichfield, 1709. Son of a Bookseller. Educated, Oxford, but did not take Degree. In Birmingham engaged translating for Booksellers and writing for Press, 1733. Opened School near Lichfield, where had for pupil David Garrick. Unsuccessful, Johnson and Garrick came together to London,

where Johnson contributed to *The Gentleman's Magazine*. Began famous *Dictionary of the English Language*, 1747. Engaged on work seven years. In meantime published *The Rambler* twice weekly, followed by *The Idler*. Wrote *Rasselas*, 1759. Made acquaintance of and travelled with James Boswell, who wrote his life. Died, 1784. Buried, Westminster Abbey.

JONSON, BEN. Poet and Dramatist. Born, London, 1573. Son, according to his own story, of a "Minister," who died before the boy was born. Step-son of a Master Bricklayer, who lived in Hartshorn Lane, near Charing Cross, and would appear to have taught the boy his trade. Educated privately and at Westminster School, and, some say, at Cambridge, for which very thorough education much commendation should be given to the Master-bricklayer, who presumably paid the charges. Joined the Army as private and served in Netherlands. Became an Actor in the Lord Admiral's Company, which was managed by Henslowe. Played at "The Curtain" Theatre, Holywell Street, Shoreditch, and the "Rose." Appears to have made beginning as Dramatist by revising *The Spanish Tragedy*. Wrote *Every Man in his Humour*, 1598, in which comedy Shakespeare played at "The Theatre," also in Holywell Street. Wrote *The Case is Altered*, 1599. Fought a duel at Hogsden (Hoxton), killed his man,

and was committed to prison, where found himself on other occasions. Studied Divinity. Converted to Church of Rome. Wrote *Every Man out of his Humour*, played before Elizabeth. Wrote *The Poetaster*, 1601. In collaboration with the famous Architect, Inigo Jones, who was responsible for the "painting and carpentry" (presumably costumes and scenery), wrote and presented several masques, in which had become very expert. Quarrelled bitterly with Inigo Jones and satirised him. Was concerned in unravelling Gunpowder Plot. Wrote several Tragedies and added to the number of his Comedies *The Silent Woman*, 1609, *Bartholomew Fair*, 1614, *The Devil is an Ass*, 1617, etc. A work considered by some his most poetical, *The Sad Shepherd*, was never completed. Very fond of jovial carousals at the Mermaid Tavern, or wherever kindred spirits foregathered, "Rare" Ben spent his earnings freely. Visited Stratford to see Shakespeare, of whom he wrote: "I loved the man and do honour his memory (on this side idolatry) as much as any." Paid a visit to Scotland, the home of his ancestors, 1618. Suffered a sad calamity in the loss by fire of his library, and with it the MS. of a new *English Grammar*, a cruel stroke of fortune. Died, 1637. Buried, Westminster Abbey.

KEATS, JOHN. Poet. Born, London, 1795. Son of a Livery-stable Keeper. Educated,

Enfield. Apprenticed to Surgeon. Acted as Dresser at Guy's Hospital. Licentiate at Apothecaries' Hall at twenty-one. Lodged at Queen's Head Tavern, Cheapside, where wrote a sonnet which drew him some attention — "On first Looking into Chapman's Homer." Wrote the "Ode to a Nightingale," "Hyperion," "Endymion," etc. Died, Rome, 1821.

LAMB, CHARLES. Essayist. Born, Crown Office Row, Inner Temple, 1775. Son of a Lawyer's Clerk. Educated at Christ's Hospital. At the age of seventeen entered the service of the East India Company. Counted among his friends most of the famous literary men of his time. His best-known work is the *Essays of Elia*. Died at Edmon-ton, 1834.

LOKE, SIR WILLIAM. Mercer. Alderman and Sheriff, 1548. As King's Mercer, supplied Queen Anne Boleyn and the infant Princess Elizabeth with their wardrobes. Was such a favourite with Henry VIII that the King gave him a key to his Private Chamber and an invitation to come when he would. Was never Lord Mayor. Grandfather of John Locke, the great Philosopher. Died, Bow Lane, 1550. Buried, Mercers' Chapel, Cheapside.

LONGMAN, THOMAS. Publisher. Born, Bristol, 1699. Son of Ezekiel Longman,

gentleman. Apprenticed to John Osborn, a London Bookseller, 1716. Married Osborn's daughter, after the fashion of industrious apprentices. Purchased the business of William Taylor, the first publisher of *Robinson Crusoe*, 1724. So Longman acquired the Signs of the Black Swan and the Ship, for Taylor owned two shops, which occupied the site in Paternoster Row of the present publishing house of Longmans. Osborn, who joined his son-in-law in business, owned a sixth share in *Chambers's Cyclopædia*, and Longman was one of the six enterprising Booksellers who ventured on Samuel Johnson's famous Dictionary. When Longman took his nephew into partnership, the style of the firm became T. & T. Longman. It was in the reign of the fifth Thomas Longman that the style became Longmans, or, rather, Longmans, Green & Company. The first Thomas Longman died 1755.

MILTON, JOHN. Poet. Born, Bread Street, London, 1608. Son of a Scrivener. Educated, St. Paul's School and Christ's, Cambridge. After travels in France and Italy, went to live in Jewin Street. When Oliver Cromwell became Protector, Milton was appointed Latin Secretary. Soon afterwards he lost his sight. After this calamity he wrote "Paradise Lost" and "Paradise Regained." Had three wives. Died, Bunhill Fields, 1674. Buried, St. Giles, Cripplegate.

MORE, SIR THOMAS. Lawyer, Lord Chancellor, and Author. Born, Milk Street, City, 1478. Son of Sir Thomas More, Justice of King's Bench. Educated, St. Anthony's School, Threadneedle Street, and Oxford. Admitted Lincoln's Inn, 1496. Subjected himself to discipline of Carthusian Monks for brief period, including hair shirt, scourgings, etc. Under Sheriff, 1502. M.P. 1504. Opposed demand of Henry VII for money. In consequence withdrew from public life, devoting himself to Music, Arithmetic, Geometry, Astronomy, Languages, etc. Considered taking Priest's Orders, 1505, but instead married. Returned to public career on death Henry VII. Soon attracted attention Henry VIII and Wolsey. In Star Chamber obtained judgment against Crown in case of Crown *v.* Pope. Henry VIII, being present, took More into his service. Appointed Member Privy Council, and knighted, 1514. Employed as Ambassador Netherlands. Appointed Treasurer of Exchequer, 1521. Speaker, House of Commons, 1523. Opposed Wolsey in Money Grant, which aroused Cardinal's enmity. Wolsey proposed to send him to Spain as Ambassador. The King decided otherwise, and took More into great favour, frequently visiting him at Chelsea for learned discourse. Appointed Lord Chancellor in place of Wolsey, 1529. Desiring to divorce the Queen to enable him to marry Anne Boleyn, the King counted upon

More's compliance. But in no matter affecting his conscience was More ever known to yield. He refused, and petitioned to be allowed to resign. This was granted. So poor was he after his resignation that the Clergy voted him a sum of £5,000, which he refused, although his income had been reduced to about £100 a year. Free from office, More returned to the studies he loved. But the King would not leave him in peace and retirement. He invited him to attend the Coronation of Queen Anne Boleyn. More refused. Thenceforth he was marked out for vengeance. Accused of accepting bribes, he was acquitted. Accused of Treason on various ridiculous grounds, his name was struck out of the Bill. Refusing, however, to take the Oath of Supremacy, as against his conscience, he was committed to the Tower, 1534, where he was closely confined for more than a year, then brought to trial. Again he would have been acquitted, but for a perjury on the part of Rich, the Solicitor-General, who swore to an imaginary conversation which he said he had held with More, then a prisoner in the Tower. Thereupon More was found guilty and his execution took place within the week, July 1535. Of his voluminous works the most famous is *Utopia, or A fruteful and pleasaunt worke of the best State of a Publyque Weale, and of the newe Yle called Utopia.*

MURRAY, JOHN. Born, Edinburgh, 1745. Son of——McMurray. Served in Navy as an officer of Marines. Bought the Bookseller's business of William Sandby in Fleet Street, and dropping the "Mc," was known thenceforth as John Murray, which name he made famous by his publications, which included: Mitford's *Greece*, Langhorne's *Plutarch's Lives*, and D'Israeli's *Curiosities of Literature*. Was an original proprietor of *Morning Chronicle* and founder of *The English Review*. Died, 1793. He was succeeded by his son, also John Murray, whom Byron called the "Anak" of publishers. He published some of Byron's works, a Life of Byron written by Tom Moore, Crabbe's *Tales of the Hall*, etc. Was part owner of *The Edinburgh Review*, and founder of *The Quarterly Review*, which had Sir Walter Scott amongst its contributors. John Murray II died 1843.

MYDDELTON, SIR HUGH. Born about 1560. Son of Sir Richard Myddelton, Governor of Denbigh Castle. Kept shop in Bassishaw (Basinghall) Street as Goldsmith. Was interested with Sir Walter Raleigh in commercial adventures on the Spanish Main, also in a cloth-making business. Alderman, Recorder, and M.P. for Denbigh, which he represented from 1603 to 1628. Took over from Corporation of the City a project to bring water from springs at Ware

in Hertfordshire. Constructed a canal thirty-eight miles long, which brought water to a reservoir at Islington called the New River Head, 1609. Obtained financial help from James I, 1612. Completed his great work, the New River, 1613. Was appointed first Governor of the Company, and rewarded with Baronetcy, 1622. Died, 1631. Buried, St. Matthew's, Friday Street.

NEWTON, SIR ISAAC. Scientist. Born Woolsthorpe, Lincolnshire. Son of a Yeoman Farmer. Educated Grantham, and Trinity, Cambridge. Elected Fellow, 1667. M.A. 1668. Published much on Science of Optics. Invented a sextant which is practically the same as that in everyday use now. The story of the discovery of the principle of gravitation through watching the fall of an apple is told by Voltaire, who had it from Newton's niece. Whether the story be true or not, we do not know, but it is the fact that an apple tree in the orchard at Woolsthorpe was marked as the identical one, and its timber carefully preserved when, owing to decay, it was cut down. Wrote his *Principia*, 1685-6. Was appointed Warden of the Mint, 1694. This led to his residence in Haydon Square, the Minories, to be near the Mint, and connects him with the City of London. Appointed Master of the Mint, 1697. Twice elected M.P. for his University. Elected President, Royal Society, 1703, a

post to which he was annually re-elected for twenty-five years. Died, March 1727. Buried, Westminster Abbey.

NORMAN, SIR JOHN. Draper. Son of John Norman, Banbury. Lord Mayor, 1453. Five years earlier had excused himself on ground of age and infirmities, and his chief claim to be remembered is the fact that when he did consent to serve, he built himself a barge to go to Westminster by water instead of riding on horseback as was customary. This led to many City Companies building barges, to the great satisfaction of the watermen, who made a song to commemorate it, "Row thy Boat, Norman." Whether Sir John was too fat to bump over the awful road to Westminster we are not told, but he lived twenty years after declining the mayoralty on the grounds above mentioned, and when he died left several charitable bequests—houses to the Drapers' Company, and money to maintain a chantry priest at St. Mary le Bow. Died, 1468.

OGLETHORPE, JAMES EDWARD. Soldier and Founder of State of Georgia, U.S.A. Born, London, 1696. Son of Sir Theophilus Oglethorpe of Godalming. Educated, Corpus Christi, Oxford. Joined army of Prince Eugène, 1714. Served against Turks, and assisted at capture Belgrade. M.P. for Haslemere, 1722. Set himself to improve

circumstances of poor London debtors in prison, and to provide an asylum for insolvents. On behalf of oppressed Protestants on the Continent, projected a Settlement in America between Carolina and Florida (Georgia). Major-General, 1745. Commanded English troops against the Pretender. Was accused of dereliction of duty, but acquitted. Promoted General, 1765. Died, 1785.

OSBORNE, SIR EDWARD. Clothworker. Born, Ashford, Kent. Apprenticed to Sir William Hewet, Clothworker. Osborne was Lord Mayor, 1583, and is another example of the industrious apprentice who married his master's daughter. The circumstances, however, are perhaps the most romantic of any. Sir William Hewet lived on London Bridge. A careless maid-servant, playing with his only daughter, let the child fall out of an open window into the Thames, with mighty small chance of rescue, as the account of old London Bridge in another chapter of this little book will make clear. But young Osborne, the apprentice, was near by. He sprang into the rushing flood and brought out the child safe and sound. In course of time the child grew into a very beautiful woman with many lovers, including the Earl of Shrewsbury, who asked for her hand. But Sir William would have none of them. "Osborne saved her," he said, "and Osborne shall have her!" And so Osborne did, and received a very great

dowry with her. The pair were ancestors of the Dukes of Leeds. Died, 1591.

PENN, WILLIAM. Quaker and Founder of Pennsylvania. Born, Tower Hill, London, 1644. Son of Admiral Sir William Penn. Educated at Chigwell, privately at Tower Hill, and Christ Church, Oxford. Having been removed by his father from Oxford, he was sent to France with a view to eradicating his Quaker tendencies. Afterwards travelled in Italy. On outbreak of the Plague, Penn was a student at Lincoln's Inn. Served for a brief period on Staff of his father, who had been appointed to high command in Charles II's Navy. Sent to Ireland to manage his father's estate, 1666. There he again fell under strong Quaker influence, being put in prison for assisting to expel a soldier from a Quakers' meeting which he had attended. Became a minister of that sect, and wrote various works of an aggressive character: *Truth Exalted*, *The Guide Mistaken*, etc. Sent to Tower for publishing *The Sandy Foundation Shaken*, an attack on orthodoxy. Wrote *No Cross, no Crown*, and was soon afterwards set at liberty. Reconciled with his father, went again to Ireland. Returning to London and finding his usual meeting-place in Gracechurch Street closed by soldiers, he preached in the street, was arrested and taken to Old Bailey, 1670. The jury found him "Not Guilty." On release, at once

plunged into controversy, writing much in defence of Religious Freedom, which led to another arrest. On release went to Germany and Holland, and founded a Quaker Society at Emden. Returned, and after his marriage published many controversial treatises. Penn now became interested in the Province of New Jersey, in a dispute concerning which he had been appointed Arbitrator. This eventuated in his becoming one of five proprietors of West Jersey, where he settled, 1676, and drew up a Constitution for the Colony, which speedily attracted many Quakers: Penn again visited Germany and Holland on a missionary tour, and it is to their credit that the settlers in Philadelphia, who largely came from Kircheim, were amongst the first to hold it wrong for Christians to own slaves. For the name of the new Province, Penn himself suggested "Sylvania," the prefix of Penn being added by the King in spite of protests. In 1682 Penn sailed once more for America with a hundred comrades. Returned to England, 1682, and on death of Charles II took up residence at Holland House, Kensington. After countless trials and difficulties, both in Pennsylvania and England, he died, 1718. Buried at Jourdans (Jordans) Meeting House, near Chalfont St. Giles, Bucks.

PEPYS, SAMUEL. Secretary to Navy and Diarist. Born, 1633. Son of John Pepys, a London Tailor of good family. Educated at

Huntingdon, St. Paul's School, and Trinity and Magdalen, Cambridge. Clerk in the Exchequer, 1659. His cousin being Commander of the Fleet which brought back Charles II at the Restoration, Pepys accompanied him and so made acquaintance with the King. Appointed "Clerk of the Acts" in Navy Office, 1660. Commenced his famous Diary, January 1st of same year. Irrespective of the Diary, Pepys was a man of mark, an able official, a musician, and patron of musicians, President of Royal Society, and Author of valuable *Memoirs of the Navy*, the only work except the Diary which is known to have been written by him. His post in the Navy Office was equivalent to that of an Under-Secretary of State at the present day. Clerk of the Privy Seal, 1660. J.P. and Younger Brother of Trinity House, 1662. Commissioner for Affairs of Tangier, Treasurer of Royal Fisheries, 1664. As surveyor of Victualling in Naval War with Holland, he rendered excellent service. During the Plague stuck bravely to his post. Transferred by Charles II to Secretaryship of Admiralty, 1673. M.P. for Harwich, 1679. Accusations of treason, or betrayal of Navy secrets to the French, failed. Accompanied the King to Newmarket, 1680, and there took down from the monarch's lips the narrative of his escape after the Battle of Worcester. Retained his post under James II, and became practically Minister for the Navy. The

Revolution of 1688 ended his official career. Appears to have lived at various places in the City, one being Axe Yard, near the Dolphin Tavern, which, however, may have been in Seething Lane, Great Tower Street, where he long resided. Eventually he retired to his house at Clapham, where he died, 1703. Buried at St. Olave's, Hart Street, Crutched Friars.

PHILPOT, SIR JOHN. Grocer. Born, Kent. Lord Mayor, 1378. Was known as "The Head, Heart and Hand of the City," and was the most important member of the Grocers' Company. Knighted on the Field. M.P. for City. A very remarkable and distinguished man. Resided in Philpot Lane, to which he gave his name.

POPE, ALEXANDER. Poet. Born, London, 1688. Son of Linen-draper. Educated privately. Wrote *Essay on Criticism*, which stamped him as a powerful writer. Translated the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*, for which he received £8,000. Bought the beautiful villa at Twickenham known to-day as "Pope's Villa," there wrote *The Dunciad*, *Essay on Man*, etc. Was so exceedingly fragile in body that he could scarcely stand without support. Died, 1744. Buried, Twickenham.

PURCHASE, SIR WILLIAM. Mercer. Son of John Purchase, of Gamlingay, Cambridgeshire. Lord Mayor, 1497. Kept shop in

Lawrence Lane, Cheapside, and his claim to fame, or rather remembrance, would appear to be that he obtained Moorfields for the people, or, to use the exact words of Old Fuller: "He caused Moorfields, under the Walls, to be made plain ground, then to the great pleasure, since to the greater profit of the city." Buried, St. Lawrence Jewry.

RAMSEY, SIR THOMAS. Grocer. Born, Edenbridge, Kent. Lord Mayor, 1577. Was a great benefactor to young men of the Grocers' Company. With his consent, his wife, Mary, who possessed a large fortune for the period, gave lands to Christ's Hospital of the yearly value of £243; to the Master of the School, £20 per annum; to the Master at Hawstead School, £20; to Ten poor Widows, yearly £20; to two Fellows at Peterhouse, Cambridge, yearly £40; to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, £10. Sir Thomas died 1590. Buried, St. Mary Woolnoth.

READ, SIR BARTHOLOMEW. Goldsmith. Born, Cromer, Norfolk. Son of Robert Read. Lord Mayor, 1502. Purchased the famous Crosby Place in Great St. Helen's, and kept a splendid Mayoralty there. Founded a Free School at Cromer, where his memory is held in grateful remembrance. Died, 1505. Buried, Cloisters of Charterhouse.

RICHARDSON, SAMUEL. Author. Born, Derbyshire. Son of a London Carpenter.

It has been stated that he was educated at Christ's Hospital, but there is no proof of this. Apprenticed to John Wilde, a Printer in Aldersgate. Following the prevailing fashion of industrious apprentices, he married his master's daughter. Commencing business on his own account, he became Printer of the Journals of the House of Commons, Master of the Stationers' Company, and the King's Law Printer. Wrote *Pamela* at his house in Salisbury Court. This was a new departure in romance writing. His next work, *Clarissa*, is generally accorded to have been his best. He published the *History of Sir Charles Grandison*, 1753. Died, 1761. Buried, St. Bride's, Fleet Street.

SHAW, SIR EDMUND. Goldsmith. Born, Dankerfield, Cheshire. Son of John Shaa. Lord Mayor, 1482. Was an adherent of Richard Crookback, who would appear not to have been so black as Shakespeare painted him. When Richard III wanted money for his Coronation, Sir Edmund either bought the King's plate or lent him money on its security. Founded a Free Grammar School at Stockport, and by his will left funds for the rebuilding of Cripplegate, which was done. Was a benefactor of Goldsmiths' Company. Died about 1490. Buried, St. Thomas Acon, Cheapside.

SMIRKE, SIR ROBERT. Architect. Born, London, 1759. Appointed Architect to

Board of Trade at twenty-six and entrusted with building of Mint, Tower Hill. Built General Post Office, St. Martin's le Grand, and commenced British Museum, which was completed by his brother, Sydney Smirke.

SOANE, SIR JOHN. Architect and Antiquary. Born near Reading. His family name was Swan, which he changed to Soane. Won the Royal Academy's gold medal (1776), also a travelling studentship, which enabled him to visit Italy (1777-80). On returning to London was appointed Architect to the Bank of England, which he practically rebuilt in its present form. Became Professor of Architecture to the Royal Academy in 1806. Knighted, 1831. Lived for some time in Lincoln's Inn Fields, where he made a valuable collection of antiquities, which he presented to the nation with an endowment, 1835 (now the Soane Museum). Died, Lincoln's Inn Fields, 1837.

SPENSER, EDMUND. Poet. Born, London, about 1552. Educated, Merchant Taylors' School and Cambridge. Went to Ireland as Secretary to Lord Grey de Wilton, 1579. Granted an estate in County Cork for services. Visited there by Sir Walter Raleigh, who, when Spenser returned to London in 1590, acted as his sponsor at Court, where Elizabeth received him graciously and gave him a pension of £50 a year. Published the first

three books of the *Faerie Queen* in that year. Returned to his estate in Ireland, where his house was burnt down and himself, with his wife and children, forced to fly. Soon afterwards he died, it is said, for lack of bread, in a tavern in King Street, Westminster. Buried in Westminster Abbey, his funeral being attended by a large number of his contemporaries, Shakespeare probably amongst them, who threw their elegies with the pens they were written with, into his grave.

STOW, JOHN. Historian and Antiquary. Born, parish of St. Michael, Cornhill. Son of Thomas Stow, Tailor. His education could only have been scanty, as his father paid but 6s. 6d. rent per year for his house and garden. Learned his father's trade. For a time lived near "the well within Aldgate," but afterwards removed to Lime Street Ward. Formed the acquaintance of the principal Antiquaries of his day, including William Camden (see *supra*) and in 1561 published *The Woorkes of Geoffrey Chaucer, newly printed with divers addicions whiche were never in printe before*. In 1565 he issued his *Summarie of Englyshe Chronicles*. Falling under the suspicion of the Church for "having many dangerous and suspicious books in his possession," his house was invaded, and an inventory taken of certain works defending the Catholic Faith. He succeeded, however, in satisfying his interrogators that he was a

sound Protestant. In 1580 he published his *Annales, or a Generale Chronicle of England from Brute until the present yeare of Christ*. Issued in 1598 his famous *Survey of London*, of which various editions have been printed, amongst them being those by Munday and Dyson, Strype (see *infra*), and Kingsford. Never affluent in his life. John Stow was a cheerful soul. In 1604 James I authorised him to canvass "amongst our loving subjects" and "collect their voluntary contributions and kind gratuities," and himself set the example. Stow, however, did not live long to enjoy any benefits that might have been forthcoming. He died in 1605, and is buried in St. Andrew's Undershaft, St. Mary Axe.

STRYPE, JOHN. Historian and Biographer. Born, Houndsditch, London, 1643. Son of John Strype, or Van Stryp, a Merchant and Silk Throwster from Brabant and a refugee from persecution. John Strype, the younger, was educated St. Paul's School, and Jesus, Cambridge. M.A. in 1669, and became Perpetual Curate of Theydon Bois, Essex. Amongst his most important works are the *Memorials of Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury*, 1694; *Annals of the Reformation in England*, 1709; *An Accurate Edition of Stow's Survey of London*, 1720, etc. Died at Hackney, 1737. Buried, Leyton.

STUKELEY, WILLIAM. Physician, Antiquary, and Priest. Born, Holbeach,

1687. Son of a Lawyer. Educated, Cambridge. Studied Medicine at St. Thomas's Hospital, London. Fellow of Royal Society, 1717; a Founder of Society of Antiquaries, 1718. Was Secretary for nine years. M.D., 1719. Fellow Royal College of Physicians, 1720. Commenced writing on Antiquities, 1720, his principal work being an account of Stonehenge, which earned for him the name of "the Arch-Druid." Took Holy Orders, 1729. Became Rector of a Bloomsbury parish. Died, 1765.

SUTTON, THOMAS. Founder of the Charterhouse School and Hospital. Born about 1532. Son of a Lincoln official. Educated, Eton, and probably Cambridge. Travelled much in Europe. Joined the army about 1569. Master and Surveyor of Ordnance in the North, 1570. Took part in siege Edinburgh Castle, 1573. Obtained great wealth from coal-mines, which he resolved to devote to charitable purposes. Bought the Charterhouse for £13,000, 1609. Built and endowed Charterhouse School and Hospital. Died, 1611. Buried, the Charterhouse.

TAYLEUR, SIR WILLIAM. Grocer. Born, Ecclestone, Staffs. Son of John Taylor. Sir William was Lord Mayor, 1468, and was knighted on the Field after the Battle of Tewkesbury by Edward IV, 1470. He set an excellent example on his death by leaving

lands and tenements to relieve the people from payment of a tax called "Fifteenths," granted to the King. Died, 1484.

TENNISON, THOMAS. Archbishop. Born, Cottenham, Cambridgeshire, 1636. Educated Free School, Norwich, and Corpus Christi, Cambridge. Fellow, 1659. Studied Medicine. Ordained Priest, 1659. Vicar St. Andrews the Great, Cambridge. Earned much commendation for his care of sufferers from the Plague. D.D., 1680. Appointed to the Cure of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields by Charles II, 1680. Preached Nell Gwynne's funeral sermon, 1687. Bishop of Lincoln, 1691. Archbishop of Canterbury, 1694. Was very prominent during the reigns of Charles II, James II, and William and Mary. Preached Queen Mary's funeral sermon. Crowned Queen Anne, and also crowned George I. Endowed Schools which still bear his name, founded a Public Library, was a Founder of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. Maintained many curates to assist him in his vast activities. Died, London, 1715.

THROCKMORTON (or Throgmorton), SIR NICHOLAS. Statesman. Born probably at Coughton, Warwickshire. Brought up in household of Catherine Parr, last wife of Henry VIII. Great favourite of Regents during reign of Edward VI. On attempt to make Lady Jane Grey Queen of England he

behaved so as to give offence to neither side, and gained the favour of Queen Mary. Tried at Guildhall, 1554, for complicity in Wyatt's rebellion, when his adroit handling of the jury led to his acquittal. The jurymen were fined and sent to prison, and Throckmorton to the Tower, where he was held for a year. Rose rapidly on Elizabeth's accession. Became Chamberlain of the Exchequer and appointed Ambassador to France. Endeavoured to aid the Huguenots, and was taken prisoner by the Duke of Guise. Sent to Scotland to prevent marriage of Mary Queen of Scots with Darnley, but failed. His sympathies with Mary led to his imprisonment at Windsor, but for a very short time. It is believed that he gave his name to Nicholas Lane in the City, and that he had a house where is now Throgmorton Street. Died, 1571. Buried, St. Katherine Cree.

USK, THOMAS. Author, and Collector of Customs. Born, London, about 1340. No particulars are available of Usk's early life. He was Clerk of the Closet to John of Northampton, Lord Mayor, 1381-3. Must have been well acquainted with Chaucer when the latter was Controller of Customs, for during the same period Usk was a Collector. His claim to mention rests upon one work—*The Testament of Love*, long attributed to Chaucer. The initial letters of its chapters, however, comprise a statement of authorship,

if cryptic, viz. "Margarete of virtw, have merci on thin (e) Usk." This work is stated to be the most elaborate production in English prose which the end of the fourteenth century has given us. Usk became sub-Sheriff of Middlesex, 1388, but, with others, was accused of treason and condemned. He was executed in the customary brutal fashion, 1388.

VANBRUGH, SIR JOHN. Architect and Playwright. Born, parish of St. Nicholas Acons, City. Son of Giles Vanbrugh, Sugar Baker. Educated King's School, Chester. Went to France at nineteen and became Art Student. Returned to take up Commission in Army. Arrested at Calais as a spy, 1690. Imprisoned Vincennes and the Bastille. Released on his exchange being effected. Drafted the Comedy, *The Provok'd Wife*, in the Bastille. It was produced at Lincoln's Inn Fields and gave Garrick one of his great parts. After writing various successful Comedies, he appears to have taken offence at some criticism and turned his attention to Architecture about 1702. Appointed Comptroller Royal Works and Commissioner at Greenwich. Appointed to College of Arms and became *Clarenceux*, 1704. Designed Kneller Hall, the Haymarket Theatre, Blenheim Palace, Claremont House, Esher, etc. Became Architect to Greenwich Hospital, 1716. Knighted at Accession George I.

Afterwards wrote again for the stage. His *Journey to London* was completed two years after his death by Colley Cibber and called *The Provok'd Husband*. He died 1786.

WALTER, JOHN. Founder of *The Times*. Born 1738, probably London. Son of Richard Walter, Coal Merchant. Played a leading part in establishing Coal Exchange. Became member of Lloyd's, 1781, but failed. Bought a patent for printing from "logotypes" (founts of words, or portions of words). Acquired an old printing office in Blackfriars, 1784. This was the beginning of Printing House Square of later date. There he established his "Logographic Office." Published a small newspaper, *The Daily Universal Register*, January 1, 1785, which on January 1, 1788, was re-named *The Times*, and at first had a chequered career. Walter was convicted of a libel, fined £50, and sent to Newgate for a year, also to stand in the pillory for an hour and give surety for good behaviour for seven years. For other libels, the fine was increased to £150, and another year of imprisonment added. Was convicted again for libel, 1799, when he retired from business. Died 1812.

WALTON, IZAAK. Ironmonger, Shirt-maker, and famous Angler. Born, Stafford, 1593. Son of Jervis, presumably Jervis Walton. Settling in the City, he kept shop

as an Ironmonger, occupying small premises in an upper story in Gresham's Royal Bourse (the Royal Exchange) in Cornhill. Later kept shop in Fleet Street as a Milliner-sempster, or dealer in shirts. Retired from business after Marston Moor and spent much time with friends. Was living Clerkenwell, 1650. Published his famous work, *The Compleat Angler*, 1653. He also wrote numerous Biographies of "congenial spirits," the Life of George Herbert, and of Richard Hooker, etc. Spent the last forty years of his long life amongst his cronies, notably Charles Cotton, in the latter's fishing-house on the Dove. Died, 1683. Buried, Winchester Cathedral.

WALWORTH, SIR WILLIAM. Stock Fishmonger. Born Walworth about 1320. Sheriff of London, 1371; Lord Mayor, 1374 and 1380. M.P. for London. Chosen by Parliament, with John Philpot, as Trustee of Large funds voted for defence of Kingdom against the French. The objectionable Poll Tax, which only began to be felt during Walworth's second term as Lord Mayor, 1380, was the cause of the Rebellion headed by Wat Tyler. Accompanied by Walworth and others, Richard II, then a boy of fourteen, met the rebels at Smithfield, where, on Tyler becoming insolent, Walworth struck him down. He was promptly despatched by John Sandwich, one of the King's esquires.

Walworth was knighted for his services. It has been said that the dagger in the escutcheon of the City of London was introduced in commemoration of Walworth's deed, but apparently this is not so. Died, 1385. Buried, St. Michael's, Crooked Lane, of which he was a great benefactor.

WATTS, ISAAC. Theologian and Hymn-writer. Born, Southampton, 1674. Son of a Clothier. Watts is said to have begun to learn Latin in his fifth year. Educated, Stoke Newington. Became tutor in the family of Sir John Hartopp in 1696. Was pastor in Mark Lane, 1700. His congregation moved to Pinner's Hall in 1704, and later to a new meeting-house in Bury Street. Wrote many religious works and hymns, including probably the most famous in the language, "O God, our Help in Ages past." Died, 1748. Buried, Bunhill Fields.

WELLS, SIR JOHN. Grocer. Born, Norwich. Lord Mayor, 1431. A generous man and a benefactor of the City. Amongst other works worthy of note, he laid the water from Tyburn into the "Standard" in Cheapside at his own cost, and left money for the repair of the highway to Westminster.

WHITE, REV. THOMAS. Divine. Born, Bristol, about 1550. Son of a Clothier. Educated Magdalen Hall (now Hertford College), Oxford. Rector St. Gregory by

St. Paul's, afterwards Vicar of St. Dunstan's in the West. Prebendary of St. Paul's. Treasurer, Salisbury Cathedral, Canon of Christ Church, Oxford, Canon of Windsor. Built and endowed the Temple Hospital, Bristol, 1613. Founded White's Chair of Moral Philosophy at Oxford. Died 1624, leaving £3,000 to establish a College "for all the Ministers, Parsons, Vicars, Lecturers and Curates in London and its suburbs" (afterwards Sion College), also bequests for Lectureships at St. Paul's, St. Dunstan's, and at Newgate.

WHITE, SIR THOMAS. Born, Reading, 1492. Son of William White, Clothier. Kept shop as Merchant in London. Became Master Merchant Taylors' Company. Lord Mayor, 1553. Defended the City against Sir Thomas Wyatt's rebels, and took part in their trial; also in that of Lady Jane Grey. Founded St. John's College, Oxford, 1560. Was a founder of the Muscovy Company, also of Merchant Taylors' School. Died at Oxford, 1567. Buried, St. John's College.

WHITTINGTON, SIR RICHARD. Mercer and Merchant. Born Pauntley, Gloucestershire. Son of Sir William Whittington. Apprenticed to Sir John Fitzwarren, Mercer and Merchant, whose daughter he married. Made a large fortune in Commerce. Three

times Lord Mayor, and three times Master of Mercers' Company. Great favourite of Henry IV and Henry V. Founded a College, Libraries, and Schools. Restored and helped St. Bartholomew's Hospital. Helped greatly to beautify Guildhall and build Library, and in restoring various churches. Supervised rebuilding of nave, Westminster Abbey. Rebuilt Newgate. Had famous palace in Hart Street, Mark Lane. Was a great foe of brewers who swindled the people with poor ale. Died, 1423. Buried, College Hill.

WILLIAMS, ROGER. Founder of Colony of Rhode Island, U.S.A. Born London, about 1604. Son of a Merchant Taylor. Probably educated at Charterhouse, and Pembroke, Cambridge. Said to have studied Law under Sir Edward Coke. Studied Theology and became Chaplain to Sir William Masham of Otes, 1629. Emigrated to New England. Arrived Boston, 1631. Removed to Plymouth owing to religious differences. Advocated the purchase of land from Indians in lieu of confiscation. For his opinions he was tried and sentenced to banishment from Massachusetts. Founded the first Settlement in Rhode Island, to which he gave the name of *Providence*, 1636. Bought and paid for the land on which he settled. Induced the Narragansett Indians to form an alliance with the Massachusetts Colonists during the Pequot War. Returned to England, 1643,

and obtained a Charter for Providence, Newport, and Portsmouth. Went back to America, 1644, and averted an attack by the Narragansetts on the colonists and their allies, the Mohegans. Again visited England, 1651, and obtained a new Charter. Made many friends in London, including Cromwell and Milton. Died, Providence, 1684.

WREN, SIR CHRISTOPHER. Astronomer and Architect. Born, Wiltshire, 1632. Son of a Dean of Windsor. Educated, Westminster School and Oxford. Was Professor of Astronomy, Oxford, 1656. After Great Fire designed a new model City of London, not, however, adopted, and rebuilt more than fifty churches. He built the Royal Exchange, Chelsea Hospital, Hampton Court, Marlborough House, Temple Bar, Greenwich Observatory, etc., and added to Westminster Abbey. His most famous work, St. Paul's Cathedral, was begun in 1675 and completed in 1710. It is recorded that his weekly pay during this work was but £4, which was not always forthcoming. Died, 1723. Buried in the Crypt of the Cathedral he erected.

CHAPTER VIII

THE CITY LIVERY COMPANIES

TIME was, in the earlier years of the Livery Companies, that on holidays the streets of the Old City must have blazed with colour like a garden, for the liveries of the craftsmen skilled in the many "mysteries" emulated the rainbow, all, or nearly all, being parti-coloured, both gown and hood. In choice of hues the most striking would appear to have had the preference as instanced by the Grocers', who, at one period, 1414, decked themselves in scarlet and green, which in 1418 they changed, like the chameleon, to scarlet and black; while in 1428 scarlet and deep blue "was the only wear," as crimson and violet in 1450. About the time of the Reformation, however, more sober hues came into fashion, for, as Stow tells us:

"Among the graver sort . . . remaineth a memory of the hoods of old time worn by their predecessors; these hoods were worn, the roundlets upon their heads, the skirts to hang behind in their necks to keep them warm, the tippet to be on their shoulder, or to wind about their necks; these hoods were of old time made in colours according to their gowns, which were of two colours, as red and blue, and red and

purple, murrey, or as it pleased their masters and wardens to appoint to the Companies ; but now of late time they have used their gowns to be all of one colour, and those of the saddest, but their hoods being made the one half of the same cloth their gowns be of, the other half remaineth red as of old time."

In order of civic precedence the most important of the seventy-six Livery Companies whose histories follow in the briefest terms are (1) the Mercers, (2) the Grocers, (3) the Drapers, (4) the Fishmongers, (5) the Goldsmiths, (6) the Skinners, (7) the Merchant Taylors, (8) the Haberdashers, (9) the Salters, (10) the Ironmongers, (11) the Vintners, (12) the Clothworkers. These, and the remaining sixty-four, we do not propose to refer to according to their priority, but alphabetically, as planned, indicating the rank by the respective number, when available. Consequently we commence with the—

APOTHECARIES (No. 58). Originally incorporated with the Grocers' Company, 1606. This proving unsatisfactory, the Companies separated, 1617, and the Apothecaries were incorporated by the name of "The master, wardens, and society of the art and mystery of Apothecaries in the City of London." The Hall of the Apothecaries' Company is in Water Lane, Blackfriars.

ARMOURERS AND BRASIERS (22). The Armourers were incorporated about 1423 by the title of "The master and wardens,

brothers and sisters of the fraternity or guild of St. George of the men of the mystery of the Armourers of the city of London." Now united with the Brasiers.

BAKERS (19). The original Guild dates from before 1155. The Company was incorporated about 1307, when a charter was granted to "The master and wardens of the mystery or art of Bakers of the city of London." This was renewed by Henry VII, and subsequently. Hall: 16, Harp Lane, Great Tower Street.

BARBERS. From an early date this Company possessed a monopoly of practising the art of surgery in the City and for a radius of seven miles. Incorporated, 1461. Styled "Barbers and Surgeons," or "Barber-Surgeons," in the reign of Henry VIII. The Surgeons were incorporated in a separate body, 1744. Hall: Monkwell Street.

BASKETMAKERS (52). A fraternity by prescription. Date of origin unknown. It is included with the City Companies by the name of "The wardens, assistants and freemen of the Company of Basketmakers of the City of London." The Company does not possess a hall.

BLACKSMITHS (40). Originally a fraternity by prescription. Incorporated, 1571, by the name of "The keepers or wardens of the art and mystery *de les* Blacksmiths." No hall.

BOWYERS (38). Originally a Company by prescription. Incorporated, 1620, after the

bow had ceased to be a military weapon, by the name of "The master, wardens and society of the mystery of Bowyers of the city of London." No hall.

BREWERS (14). Incorporated 1438, by the name of "The master and keeper or wardens and commonalty of the mystery or art of Brewers of the city of London." Were granted the privilege of making by-laws to regulate their trade. Hall: Addle Street, Wood Street.

BROIDERERS (EMBROIDERERS) (48). Originally a fraternity. Incorporated, 1591, by the name of "The keepers or wardens and company of the art or mystery of the Broiderers of the City of London." No hall.

BUTCHERS (24). One of the oldest of the Livery Companies. Was fined in the reign of Henry II (1180) for "setting up" a guild without the king's licence. Incorporated, 1605, with the usual style and title. Hall: 87-88, Bartholomew Close.

CARMEN (89). Constituted a Fellowship in the reign of Henry VIII. Incorporated with the fraternity of Fuellers, under the name of "Woodmongers," in 1606. The Fuellers, however, gave up their charter in 1668, after which the Carmen were reconstituted a Fellowship under the name of "The free Carmen of the City of London." No hall.

CARPENTERS (26). Incorporated, 1344, by the name of "The master, wardens, assistants and commonalty of the mystery of freemen of

the Carpenters of the City of London.”
Hall: Throgmorton Avenue.

CLOCKMAKERS (61). Incorporated, 1632, by the name of “The master, wardens and society of the art of Clockmakers of the City of London.” No hall.

CLOTHWORKERS (12). Incorporated, 1482, by the name of “The fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of the Shearmen of London.” Reincorporated in the reign of Elizabeth, when the title was changed to “The master, wardens and commonalty of freemen of the art and mystery of Clothworkers, etc.” Possesses much property and is noted for its benevolence. Hall: 41, Mincing Lane.

COACH-MAKERS AND COACH-HARNESS MAKERS (79). Incorporated in the reign of Charles II, by the usual style and title. Hall: Noble Street, Cheapside.

COOKS (35). Incorporated, 1480. According to their charter, all Candidates must be presented to the Lord Mayor before admittance. Their hall, in Aldersgate Street, was burnt down in 1771. The Company now uses the Guildhall.

COOPERS (36). Incorporated, 1501. The members were empowered, at an early period, to search and gauge all beer, ale, and soap vessels within the City of London and for two miles round, for which they were permitted to charge a farthing a cask. Hall: 71, Basinghall Street.

- CORDWAINERS (27). Incorporated, 1410, by the name of "The Company of Cordwainers and Coblers, etc.," the latter signifying not only a Shoe-maker, but a dealer in shoes. Under a later charter the Company is now styled: "The master, wardens and commonalty of the mystery of Cordwainers, etc." Hall: 7, Cannon Street.
- CURRIERS (29). Incorporated in the reign of James I with the usual style and title. Hall: 6, London Wall.
- CUTLERS (18). Incorporated, 1417, with the usual style and title. This Company was granted the privilege of working in gold and silver subject to assay by the Goldsmiths' Company. Hall: 4, Warwick Lane, Newgate Street.
- DISTILLERS (74). Incorporated, 1638, the charter being granted to the "Trade, Art, or Mystery of the Distillers of London." Possessing no hall, the business is transacted at the Guildhall.
- DRAPERS (3). Incorporated, 1439, by the name of "The master, wardens, brethren and sisters of the guild or fraternity of the Blessed Mary the Virgin, of the mystery of Drapers, etc." Possessed of large estates, the Company devotes considerable sums annually to charitable purposes. Hall: Throgmorton Street.
- DYERS (13). Was formerly one of the twelve principal Companies. Incorporated, 1472, by the name of "The wardens and commonalty of Dyers, London." One of the privileges

of this Company is the right of keeping swans on the Thames. Hall: 10, Dowgate Hill.

FANMAKERS (84). Incorporated, 1709, by the name of "The master, wardens, assistants and society of the art or mystery of Fan-makers in the cities of London and Westminster, and twenty miles round the same." No hall.

FARRIERS (55). Incorporated, 1673, with the usual style and title. No hall.

FELTMAKERS (64). The Felt, or Hatmakers, were anciently united with the Haberdashers, but were separately incorporated in 1604. No hall, but the Company uses the Guildhall for transaction of its business.

FISHMONGERS (4). Formerly two communities, the Salt-fishmongers and the Stock-fishmongers, the first being incorporated in 1483, and the latter in 1509. Uniting, they were jointly incorporated in 1536 by the name of "The wardens and commonalty of the mystery of Fishmongers of the city of London." Hall: Adelaide Place, London Bridge.

FLETCHERS (39). Company by prescription, but has a coat-of-arms on which appear three fully fledged arrows, indicating the ancient occupation of the Fletchers. No hall, although formerly the Company possessed one in St. Mary Axe.

FOUNDERS. Incorporated, 1614. By their charter the Founders are granted "power to search all brass weights, and brass and

copper wares within the city of London and three miles thereof. All makers of brass weights within that circuit" were "obliged to have their several weights sized by the Company's standard, and marked with their common mark; such of the weights as are of averdupois to be sealed at the Guildhall, and those of troy weight at Goldsmith's Hall." The Company's Hall is at 13, St. Swithin's Lane.

FRAMEWORK KNITTERS (65). Incorporated, 1663, under the style of "The master, wardens, assistants and society of the art and mystery of Framework Knitters in the cities of London and Westminster, the kingdom of England and Dominion of Wales." No hall.

FRUITERERS (45). Incorporated, 1605, with the usual style and title. The Company's coat-of-arms shows Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden, under an apple tree, around which a serpent is coiled, and has been frequently used as a tavern sign. No hall.

GARDENERS (70). Incorporated, 1616. The business of the Company is transacted at the Hall of the Bakers' in Harp Lane.

GIRDERS (23). Incorporated, 1449. Confirmed in 1568, when the Pinners and Wire-drawers were incorporated with them. Hall: 39, Basinghall Street.

GLASS-SELLERS AND LOOKING-GLASS MAKERS. Incorporated, 1664, as the Glass-sellers Company. No hall.

GLAZIERS (53). Incorporated with the Glass-Painters, 1637. No hall.

GLOVERS (62). Incorporated, 1638, as "The master, wardens and fellowship, etc." The Company transacts its business at the Guildhall.

GOLD AND SILVER WIRE DRAWERS (81). First incorporated, 1623. Reincorporated, 1693, under the title of "The master, wardens, assistants and commonalty of the art and mystery of drawing and flatting of gold and silver wire, and making and spinning of gold and silver thread and stuffs in our city of London." No hall.

GOLDSMITHS (5). Of great antiquity. Was fined in 1180 for "setting up" without the king's licence. Incorporated, 1327. Received grants and authorities from Edward III, Richard II, and Edward IV. Possessed the privilege of inspecting, trying, and regulating all gold and silver wares in the City and other parts of the kingdom, viz. Birmingham, Sheffield, Chester, etc., with power of punishment for adulteration. About 1267 the Goldsmiths fought a great battle with the Merchant Taylors. Many were killed and wounded, thirteen being afterwards executed. In 1378 they came to blows with the Pepperers also. Hall: Foster Lane.

GROCERS (2). Originally known as the Pepperers, which Company was in existence in 1180 and was allied with the Spicers. In 1345 the name "Grocer," probably signifying

one who dealt *en gros* (wholesale), was first applied to the Company, when it was incorporated under the name of "The wardens and commonalty of the mystery of the Grocers, etc." Later the Company was empowered to search and inspect the goods and weights of all grocers within the City of London and suburbs. The custody and management of the King's beam was assigned to the Grocers, and also the garbling of spices, etc. In 1541 the Grocers ordered that a number of "bags and remnants of certain evil and naughty pepper be conveyed over sea to be sold, and the dust of the evil pepper surnamed ginger to be burned." Hall: Princes Street.

GUNMAKERS (80). Incorporated 1638. Hall: 46, Commercial Road East.

HABERDASHERS (8). Originally incorporated, 1487, as "The fraternity of St. Catherine the Virgin of the Haberdashers of the city of London," the present style and title is: "The master and four wardens of the fraternity of the art or mystery of Haberdashers in the City of London." The Company possesses large estates and is noted for its benevolence. Hall: 33, Gresham Street.

HORNERS (54). Incorporated, 1638. Possessing no hall, the Company uses the Guildhall.

INNOLDERS (32). Incorporated, 1515, by the usual style. Hall: College Street, Dowgate Hill.

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IRONMONGERS (10). Incorporated, 1464, the title of the Company containing nothing of special interest. At various times this Company was granted powers to restrict foreign competition. Possesses much property. Hall: 117½, Fenchurch Street.

JOINERS (41). Incorporated, 1569, by the name of "The master and wardens and commonalty of the faculty of the Joiners and Cielers of London." Formerly the Company possessed a very finely decorated hall in Joiners' Hall Buildings, Upper Thames Street, but is now without one.

LEATHERSELLERS. Incorporated, 1442, in the usual style. The Leathersellers formerly occupied part of the Priory or Convent of St. Helens, and their Hall is still in St. Helen's Place.

LORINERS (or **LORIMERS**) (57). Some early Ordinances of this Company date from 1269, or earlier than those of any other craft, except the Cappers, but the Company was not incorporated under the title of "The masters, wardens, assistants and commonalty of Loriners, London," until 1712. It may be interesting to know that the Loriners are bridle cutters, bridle and bit-makers, etc. No hall.

MAKERS OF PLAYING-CARDS (**PLAYING-CARD MAKERS**) (83). Incorporated 1692, by the name of "The master, wardens and commonalty of the mystery of the Makers of Playing Cards of the City of London." Playing-cards appear always to have been

taxed heavily. In the reign of Charles I the tax was 36s. the gross. When in 1637 the Playing-card Makers complained that foreign competition was killing their trade, Charles I undertook to purchase a specified number of good cards weekly. It would appear that the king did very well out of this deal so long as it lasted. The Civil War put an end to that and other similar transactions. The Company possesses no hall, but uses the Guildhall.

MASONS (30). Originally incorporated about 1410 by the name and style of "The Free Masons." Their coat-of-arms was granted in 1477. Later, 1677, the Company was reincorporated by the name of "The masters, wardens, assistants and commonalty of the Company of Masons of the City of London." No hall, but formerly occupied a building in Mason's Alley, now Mason's Avenue, Coleman Street.

MERCERS (1). This is the first of the twelve principal Companies. It was a fraternity in the twelfth century, and an early code of rules is dated 1347. Incorporated in the reign of Richard II (1393) in the name of "The wardens and commonalty of the mystery of Mercers of the city of London." In the centuries that have passed, there have been many regulations, one of the earliest being aimed directly at the "tally-man," for it ordered that no one who had carried packs through the country could be admitted as an apprentice. The father of Thomas à Becket

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was a Mercer, and kept shop very near, if not on the site of the present Hall, the history of which is as follows: The Mercers' Company having acquired at the Dissolution the Hospital of St. Thomas of Acons, adopted it for their Hall and Chapel, but both were destroyed in the Fire of London. The present Hall and Chapel in Ironmonger Lane and Cheapside occupy the site. The Company is very wealthy and charitable.

MERCHANT TAYLORS (7). Anciently "Taylors and Linen Armourers." Incorporated, 1469. Reincorporated in 1503 by the name of "The master and wardens of the Merchant Taylors of the fraternity of St. John the Baptist in the City of London." A wealthy Company with large estates, and very charitable. Founded Merchant Taylors' School, 1568. Henry VII was a member of this Company and personally brought about its reincorporation in 1503. Hall: 30, Threadneedle Street.

MUSICIANS (50). Incorporated, 1604, by the name of "The master, wardens, and commonalty of the art and Science of the Musicians of London." No hall.

NEEDLE-MAKERS (69). Incorporated 1656, with the usual style and title. No hall.

PAINTERS (otherwise PAINTER-STAINERS) (28). Incorporated, 1581, by the name of "The master, wardens and commonalty of the freedom of the art and mystery of Painting called Painter-Stainers within the city of

- London." Hall (which contains many paintings of merit): Little Trinity Lane.
- PATTEN MAKERS (76). Incorporated, 1670. Uses the Guildhall.
- PAVIOURS (56). Fraternity by prescription; has a coat-of-arms, but no hall.
- PEWTERERS (16). Incorporated, 1474, under the usual style and title. In order to prevent the sale of base pewter and the importation of pewter wares from abroad, the Company was empowered in 1534 to inspect pewter wares "in all parts of the Kingdom," Englishmen being strictly prohibited from teaching the "art or mystery" of Pewterers in any foreign country, or taking as an apprentice the son of an alien. Hall: 15, Lime Street.
- PLAISTERERS (46). Incorporated, 1501, by the name of "The master and wardens of the Guild or fraternity of the blessed Mary of Plaisterers, London." Confirmed, 1667. No hall.
- PLUMBERS (31). Incorporated, 1611, with the usual style and title. Uses the Guildhall.
- POULTERERS (or POULTERS). Incorporated, 1504, with the usual style and title. Uses the Guildhall.
- SADDLERS (25). Of great antiquity. Stated to have been originally founded by Convention between the fraternity and the Dean and Chapter of St. Martin's le Grand, in the reign of Richard I. Granted charter in the ordinary form in reign of Edward I. Hall 141, Cheapside and Foster Lane.

SALTERS (9). Of great antiquity, its livery having been granted by Richard II in 1394. Appears to have been incorporated in 1558 in the usual style. The Company has large possessions and is very charitable. Hall: St. Swithin's Lane.

SCRIVENERS (44). Originally designated "The Writers of the Court Letter of the city of London," this Company was incorporated, 1616, by the name of "The master, warden and assistants of the society of Writers of the city of London." Becoming very poor, the Scriveners were obliged to sell their hall in Noble Lane (Street) to the Coachmakers, who still retain it.

SHIPWRIGHTS (59). Society by prescription for many years. Incorporated, 1605, with the usual title. No hall.

SKINNERS (6). Incorporated, 1327, by the appellation of "The master and wardens of the Guild or fraternity of the Body of Christ, of the Skinners of London." Confirmed by Charter of 1438, which ordained that every candidate should be presented to the Lord Mayor. Possesses large estates and is very charitable. Hall: 8, Dowgate Hill.

SPECTACLE MAKERS (60). Incorporated, 1630, with the usual style and title. Uses the Guildhall.

STATIONERS (47). Incorporated, 1557, by the name of "The master and keepers or wardens and commonalty of the mystery or art of a Stationer of the city of London."

Formerly the Company printed and sold "Almanacks, the singing psalms, some school books, etc." Stationers' Hall Court, where the Company's Hall is situated, appears to have anciently borne the name of "Cock Alley." The Hall stands partly on the old Roman Wall, and on the site of a palace of the Dukes of Bretagne. The lower part of this ancient Hall is now used as a warehouse by the publishers of this little book, Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall, Hamilton, Kent & Co., Ltd., many of whose employees daily pass through an opening which has been made in the Roman Wall on their avocations. Behind the Hall flourishes an ancient plane tree which has felt the fiery breath of many a holocaust of condemned books.

TALLOW CHANDLERS (21). Incorporated, 1460, under the usual style and title. In 1576 the Company was authorised to "search, examine, view and try—soap, vinegar, butter, hops, and oils," in the City and elsewhere, for which searches they charged various fees ranging from 2*d.* to 8*d.* Hall: 4, Dowgate Hill.

TIN-PLATE - WORKERS *alias* WIRE-WORKERS (72). Incorporated, 1670, by the name of "The master, wardens, assistants and commonalty of the art and mystery of Tin-plate-workers, *alias* Wire-workers, of the city of London." Uses the Bakers' Hall, Harp Lane.

TURNERS (51). Incorporated about 1620 by

the name of "The master, wardens and commonalty of the art or mystery *de lez* Turners of London." The Company uses the Guildhall.

TILERS AND BRICKLAYERS (37). A very ancient fraternity. Incorporated, 1568, under the usual style and title. The Company formerly had a Hall in the parish of All Hallows, London Wall, but at present has none.

UPHOLDERS (UPHOLSTERERS) (49). Incorporated, 1627, by the name of "The wardens and commonalty of the mystery or art of the Upholders of the city of London." No hall.

VINTNERS (11). This fraternity has records dating from the thirteenth century. Was granted a charter about 1363. Incorporated, 1436, under the usual style and title. The freemen of this Company were granted the privilege of retailing wine without a licence; and like the Dyers, the Company has authority to keep swans on the Thames. The Company possesses much property, and is very charitable. Hall: 68½, Upper Thames Street.

WAX CHANDLERS (20). Incorporated, 1483, with the usual style and title. The authority of this Company extended to a radius of ten miles around the City. Hall: Gresham Street.

WEAVERS (42). One of the earliest incorporated societies. Obtained a charter about 1105. The Company originally con-

sisted of tapestry and cloth weavers, but afterwards included weavers of wool, cotton, and silk. No hall.

WHEELWRIGHTS (73). Incorporated, 1670, with the usual style and title. The Company uses the Guildhall.

WOOLMEN (WOOLMONGERS) (43). Fraternity by prescription, but ranks as one of the City Companies, under the name of "The master, wardens and assistants of the fraternity or Company of Woolmen of the City of London." No hall.

It may be desirable to mention in conclusion that most writers on this subject refer to many other Guilds and Companies, which we have not included, for the reason that they do not now exist. A few Fraternities have been omitted as not being Livery Companies.

CHAPTER IX

SOME FAMOUS CITY BUILDINGS AND THEIR HISTORIES

BANK OF ENGLAND (The), Threadneedle Street. Before the establishment of the Bank of England, the Government, when requiring money, was accustomed to despatch emissaries to the City—to the goldsmith-bankers, the stock-jobbers, the merchants, or to anybody with cash to lend, and collect it in small sums or large, as available, paying 10 or 12 per cent. interest, while private borrowers were charged 20 or 30 per cent. The system, or want of system, of obtaining the Government's monetary requirements struck William Paterson, a London Scot, born at Traillflatt, Dumfries, in 1658, as being very unsatisfactory, and he set to work to obtain support for a remedy devised by himself—a National Bank. A charter was applied for, and granted by William and Mary in 1694 to "The Governor and Company of the Bank of England." The original capital was £1,200,000, and the subscription

list was opened—in the Mercers' Chapel, Cheapside, of all places. In the space of eleven days the whole of the capital offered had been taken up, when twenty-four Directors were elected, with Sir John Houblon as first Governor. Paterson, who was also the projector of the Bank of Scotland and the soul of the celebrated Darien Company, was one of the original Directors, but only for about a year, and soon afterwards, being too venturesome, it is said, for his staid City colleagues, he went to Darien.

The objects of the Bank were to deal in bullion and bills, issue notes, make advances on merchandise, and even to lend money on pawns and pledges. Apparently, no business was carried on at the Mercers' Chapel, beyond the receipt of subscriptions. Sir John Houblon having rented the Grocers' Hall in the Poultry—behind the present palatial Grocers' Hall—for a term of eleven years, the staff removed there, and there the Bank of England remained for forty years. At Grocers' Hall the Bank would appear to have occupied one large room, the staff numbered 54, and the salary list totalled only £4,350 per annum.

In 1732, the Bank having passed unscathed through the South Sea turmoil, it was resolved to erect a hall and office in Threadneedle Street, the site chosen being that occupied by Sir John Houblon's house and garden, and in the new building the Bank

was established during 1734. Follows a description of it in 1757:

“A small structure, almost invisible to passers by, surrounded by many others, viz. a church called St. Christopher le Stocks, three taverns, two on the south side, one—the Fountain—in Bartholomew Lane, facing the church here—St. Bartholomew’s—just where the great door of entrance is now placed, and fifteen or twenty private dwelling-houses.”

An old print shows two churches on the Threadneedle Street front, St. Christopher’s on the west, near the corner of Princes Street (nearly the whole of the parish of St. Christopher being now within the walls of the Bank), and St. Bartholomew’s on the east, apparently at the corner of Bartholomew Lane. The tower of St. Christopher’s was not taken down until after the Gordon riots in 1780, when the Bank was attacked, and defended by the staff, who are said to have used bullets melted down from leaden ink-pots. The original Bank actually comprised only a fraction of the present Threadneedle Street frontage, facing the Royal Exchange, and was designed by George Sampson. The wings to the east and west of this “kernel,” as we may call the original building, were built by Sir Robert Taylor, and rebuilt by Sir John Soane, who was responsible for the whole of the present exterior and much of the interior. A recent writer has given the area enclosed as four

acres, but another authority of earlier date describes the Bank as occupying eight acres, with nine open courts, a rotunda, etc., and formerly apartments for the chief officers.

A few particulars of the rates of interest charged in the Bank's earlier days are appended: For money advanced on mortgage 5 per cent.; discounting foreign bills, $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.; inland bills, 6 per cent. Customers who kept their cash at the Bank enjoyed considerable advantages. They were charged 3 per cent only for discounting foreign bills, and $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for inland. The Bank lent money on imperishable pawns at 5 per cent., and at one period the Directors contemplated opening a "Lombard" branch (a pawnshop), and lending on small pawns at 1*d.* per £1 per month. This, however, appears never to have been carried out.

Somewhere in the Bank of England is or was an ancient chest, rather larger than a seaman's, which, when the Bank was at Grocers' Hall, is said to have held all the cash, notes, papers, and even the books of account.

CHARTERHOUSE (The), Smithfield. It was 1349, the second year of the Plague of that period, and the citizens of London were dying in their thousands. There was lack of burial-places, which caused the famous knight and warrior Sir Walter de Manny to purchase from the Master and Brethren of St. Bartholo-

mew's Hospital a piece of ground, where, when consecrated, 50,000 victims of the pestilence were interred. Camden, indeed, gives the number as 60,000 "of the better sort of people." Soon afterwards Sir Walter built a chapel on the spot, which stood about the centre of what is now Charterhouse Square. It was his intention to add a college, but being again called to the wars, he sold the property to Bishop Northburgh, who, on his death in 1361, bequeathed the burial-place for the purpose of a site for a monastery of Carthusian Friars. In 1371 Sir Walter de Manny returned to England and took the Bishop's project upon his own shoulders, his intention being to erect and endow a monastery for twenty-four Carthusians. Dying in or about 1372, he was buried in the monastery, which, it is recorded, flourished until the Dissolution, when it was surrendered to Henry VIII, the year being 1537. Subsequently the one-time Carthusian monastery had many owners, reverted to the Crown, and was again disposed of, until, after other changes, it was acquired by the Earl of Suffolk, a son of the Duke of Norfolk. During his ownership the Charterhouse was visited several times by Queen Elizabeth, and also by James I. About 1608 the Earl sold the old monastery to Thomas Sutton, who, mindful of its past history, in 1609 petitioned the King and Parliament for leave to endow a hospital, which was granted in 1611.

Sutton's scheme, which he carried out, was to found a hospital for poor men, once householders, and a school for the free teaching and maintenance of poor children and scholars. The school was removed to Godalming in 1872. The Poor Brothers remain. They dine together in the Great Hall, have comfortable rooms rent free, and receive £36 a year. At the Charterhouse School many eminent men received their education, including Thackeray, whose works contain many references to "Grey Friars," the name he gives to the Charterhouse. It will be remembered that there Colonel Newcome found shelter after the crash.

An excellent print of the old Charterhouse will be found in the companion volume, *Historic Streets of London*.

CUSTOM HOUSE (The), Lower Thames Street.

The first building designed for the collection of the customs was built near the Tower in 1385 by Sheriff Churchman, but at that time the customs were indiscriminately collected in various parts of the City. In the first year of Elizabeth, however, a new and spacious building was erected for the purpose on the site of the first one. This being destroyed in the Great Fire, Sir Christopher Wren erected the third Custom House, which, in 1715, was also burned down, with many houses in Thames Street. The same fate befell the fourth in 1814, this building being succeeded

by the present edifice, which stands a little to the west of the old site, but has not been free from misfortune, as in 1825 a part of the Long Room fell in, which necessitated the re-erection of the whole of the centre of the building from the designs of Sir Robert Smirke. The river-front of the Custom House measures 488 feet long, while its returns to the east and west are each 107 feet deep.

GRESHAM COLLEGE (The), Basinghall Street. Were a plebiscite taken of the citizens of London to ascertain who, in their opinion, was the greatest citizen of the past, the majority of the votes could hardly fail to be given to Sir Thomas Gresham. We have not counted the references to that famous man in this little book, but its pages are freely sprinkled with his name. Born in Norfolk in 1537, he amassed great wealth as a mercer and merchant, and made splendid use of it. Dying in 1579, he left the Royal Exchange to the Mayor and Citizens of London and the Mercers' Company jointly, but the bequests carried various conditions, the chief being those concerning the establishment of Gresham College.

The Mayor and citizens, for their part, were to see that meetings should be held "to read the Lectures of Divinity, Astronomy, Musick and Geometry within mine own dwelling House in the Parish of St. Hellens in Bishops-gate Street, and in St. Peters the poor in the City of London." For these lectures he

called upon the Mayor and Corporation to set aside £200 per annum from the revenues from his properties accruing to them, each of the four lecturers to receive £50 per annum and lodgings in Gresham House ; while the Mercers' Company, from their moiety of the revenues, were to provide £150 for the payment of £50 each yearly to three learned men to read " Lectures of Law, Physick, and Rhetorick " in the places already mentioned. As will have been seen the lecturers were to number seven. They were to dwell in " the said Mansion House " in Bishopsgate Street, and the bequests were to come into operation on the death of Lady Gresham, the testator's widow, who died in 1596, or seventeen years after her husband. Apparently the lectures commenced soon afterwards, being given twice a day, in Latin in the mornings and in English in the afternoons. There were long breaks, even after the Royal Society, founded in 1660, began to hold its meetings in Gresham College—" mine own dwelling house " before mentioned ; and in 1706 and subsequently the Lord Mayor was petitioned to carry out the provisions of Sir Thomas Gresham's Will and revive and restore the lectures and the Institution, which was done. In 1767 the College in the old Gresham mansion was acquired by the Treasury as a site for an Excise Office, and the lectures were transferred to the Royal Exchange, and eventually to a building in Basinghall

Street. In 1913 Gresham College was rebuilt at a cost of £34,000, and to-day is the centre of much educational activity.

GUILDHALL (The), King Street. There does not appear to be much doubt that the present Guildhall is not the first, that the citizens of London possessed a public hall during and before the time of Edward the Confessor (A.D. 1041-1066), and that the early guilds used it. Whether or not it bore the name of Guildhall, there are no records to show, but it is believed to have occupied a site facing, and on the east side of Aldermanbury, a little to the north-west of and in close proximity to the present famous building, which is of various ages. According to Stow, the foundation of the ancient porch on the south front "was laide in the fourth year of the raigne of Henry VI." Certainly the porch was erected in the years 1425-30, at which time the Mayor's and Council Chambers above the stairs were built. The buildings west of the porch, which were erected by George Dance, date from 1789; the east wing, which was built at the same time, was demolished in 1872 and rebuilt as it is now in 1909. Evidence of the existence of a previous hall is afforded by the companionship in various situations of the arms of Edward the Confessor with those of Henry VI, in whose reign the older parts of the present Guildhall were erected. The only apparent reason for the presence of the Confessor's arms is that

the existing Guildhall succeeded one that stood in his day. This old hall proving inadequate, a new one was commenced in 1411, "an oylde and lytell cotage" being "made into a fayre and goodly house as it now apperyth," that is to say, the site of the present Guildhall was originally occupied by a little old cottage. The hall was not actually completed until 1499. As finished, so it stood until the Great Fire in 1666, when the roof was so damaged that it had to be taken down, and much injury was done to other parts of the building. The opportunity was thus afforded to raise the walls of the great hall by 20 feet. The present open roof, which is in accord with the ancient roof, was completed in 1866.

The original Council Chamber, according to Stow, was built about 1424, but a new Council Chamber was completed in or about 1614, which, in course of time, became known as the "Old Council Chamber," and was replaced by another "New" one in 1884. The most attractive room in the Guildhall is declared to be the Aldermen's Court-room, which has been described as "the Gilded Chamber." This room dates from before the Great Fire, during which it suffered considerable damage. The Art Gallery was established in 1855. The original Guildhall Library was founded in 1425 by the executors of the famous Sir Richard Whittington (thrice Lord Mayor of London), and of William Bury, in obedience to bequests in

their respective wills. But the Lord Protector Somerset stole and carried away all the books, and for centuries there was no Library. The present Library and Museum are to the east of the older building, were erected in 1873, and are approached from the south porch and also from Basinghall Street. The Reference Library is a very beautiful hall and well frequented. The Crypt under the great hall is of the same date as the hall itself (1411-25). Here again may be seen the arms of Edward the Confessor, more evidence of the earlier hall we have referred to, and here, in both aisles, are the arms of the City of London, the red cross of St. George, the patron saint of England, and the *sword* of St. Paul, the City's patron saint (and not a representation of the dagger with which Lord Mayor Walworth is supposed to have slain Wat Tyler).

For particulars of the thousands of objects of superlative interest contained in the Guildhall, of the monuments and the splendid windows, we must perforce refer the reader to the very excellent guide-book which is on sale there. The briefest mention would fill pages of this little book.

MANSION HOUSE (The). Until the erection of the Mansion House it was the custom of the Lord Mayors of London to conduct the affairs of their high office either at the Guildhall, or one or other of the Halls of the twelve principal Livery Companies.

Naturally this was found very inconvenient, and finally the Lord Mayor, the Aldermen, and the Common Council resolved that a building should be erected that would serve as a fitting residence for the chief magistrate, and also as a place of entertainment for his guests. Several situations were suggested, as the Cheapside end of Paternoster Row, Moorfields, and Stocks Market, the last site being finally decided upon. Consequently the market was removed and the site prepared for the foundations of the present building. The ground, however, was found so full of springs that it became necessary to erect the building on piles driven close together. The first stone was laid in 1739, the architect being George Dance, and the building was completed in 1753, Sir Crisp Gascoigne being the first occupant.

Constructed of Portland stone, the Mansion House cost a little over £42,000, which included the sum paid for a number of houses which were pulled down to make room for it.

ROYAL EXCHANGE (The). Until the erection of the first Exchange, or "Bourse," as it was called, the merchants of the City had no place in which to transact their business except their own houses, or shops, the open streets, or in alleys and doorways. A writer of the period, indeed, says they were more like pedlars than merchants. Evidently this must have struck Sir Thomas Gresham, of the famous "Grasshopper" in

Lombard Street, and of Gresham House in Bishopsgate, for he proposed to the Corporation that, if granted a suitable piece of ground, he would build an Exchange at his own cost, with covered walks where the City merchants might transact their business uninterrupted by rain or hail or snow. His proposal being accepted, the Corporation acquired New St. Christopher Alley and Swan Alley, both leading from Cornhill to Threadneedle Street, with all the houses, some eighty, comprised in them. These were pulled down, and the "Bourse" completed in 1568. Later, Queen Elizabeth, who had dined with Sir Thomas Gresham, visited the "Bourse" in state, and re-named the building "The Royal Exchange."

The interior was spaced out in imaginary "walks," where members would be pretty sure to meet the merchants of any particular trade. Thus there were the "Clothiers' Walk," the "Silkmen's Walk," "Grocers' and Druggists' Walk," "French Walk," "Jamaica Walk," etc.

This first Exchange, which Sir Thomas had left by will jointly to the Mayor and Citizens of London and the Mercers' Company, was destroyed in the Great Fire of 1666.

The second Royal Exchange, built by the Corporation and the Mercers' Company, was completed in 1669 from designs by Jerman, and cost about £59,000. This Exchange was also burnt down in 1838. The present

Royal Exchange, which is the third, was erected after designs by Sir William Tite, and opened by Queen Victoria in 1844.

At the eastern entrance is established the famous "Corporation of Lloyds," known in all lands where the British sailor penetrates to carry the name of that old-time coffee-house keeper near by, who never could have dreamed of such world-wide renown.

ROYAL MINT (The), Tower Hill. Coins of various Emperors, bearing the City's name, or letters indicating it, go to prove that the Romans minted money in London. And likely enough the ancient Britons made ring money here, or in the neighbourhood, before ever the Romans came. That the Saxons coined money in London there is ample evidence. Alfred the Great (A.D. 871-901) minted silver pennies here, while Athelstan (A.D. 925-41) employed eight "myneteres," or "moneyers," at his London Mint, and six more at Winchester. After the Conquest, on the erection of the Tower of London, the Mint, wherever situated before, was transferred to that fortress, and the principal Mint remained there until 1811, or for about seven and a half centuries.

Trying to make a small coin equal to the value of a larger one of the same metal, appears to have been a frequent, if unsuccessful, device of the early English monarchs to fill their Treasuries, and several of them listened to and employed alchemists to

produce the precious metals from base. Edward I, in whose reign round coins replaced square ones, employed Lully as a transmuter, and gave him St. Katherine's chamber in the Tower to work in. It is affirmed that Lully actually made gold, or, at least, made people believe so ; but his experiments appear to have ended in a Tower dungeon. Edward III, having been told that two alchemists of his day, Rous and Dalby, could make silver, arrested them and seized their transmutation plant to make silver for him, but there is no record of any gain to the King's Treasury. Henry VI also was bitten in his turn, and granted a licence for the purpose ; while Edward IV likewise accorded his protection to a "get-rich-quick" alchemist, with no more satisfactory result than had been reaped by his predecessors.

The first monarch, however, who deliberately set himself to debase the coinage by alloys and authorised it was Henry VIII, the consequence being that the value of English money fell heavily. His son, Edward VI, carried on the evil practice for a time, but it was in his reign that the reformation of the debased money began. Philip and Mary continued the purification, while Elizabeth instituted a special Mint in the Tower for the sole purpose of melting down the debased coinage, extracting the precious metals, and striking new coins with only the permitted alloy. So keen was she that she

even took her Court to the Mint she had instituted and struck coins with her own hands. Naturally the goldsmiths of the City gave their strenuous support to the campaign for purer money, and, as might be expected, the foremost of them all was Sir Thomas Gresham, the founder of the Royal Exchange.

The minting of money was not confined to the Tower, however. Henry VIII and Edward VI established, or carried on, other Mints, in Ireland, at Southwark, and at what is now Durham House Street, Strand, which is fast disappearing. Apparently in those reigns the Mints were "farmed." A "moneyer" named Sir John Yorke operated a Mint in the Tower, while another was carried on by Throgmorton, possibly the famous Sir Nicholas, from whom Nicholas Lane and Throgmorton Street are said to have been named. There was also in the Tower a Mint for farthings, known as the Irish Mint. During some centuries the coinage bore the name or initials of the minter as proof of value. Of course the minters were not all of them honest, but the punishments were terribly severe, horrid tortures and death. In the old days, when the Mint was short of bullion, the Spanish galleons were a frequent source of supply. There is a record of one haul of 65 tons of gold and silver. It is also on record that Charles I on one occasion seized the money, about £200,000, in the

Tower Mint, which money belonged largely to private citizens, who had placed their funds in the Mint for security. This step had a terrible recoil, for when the Civil War broke out, the citizens, who had not forgotten, were for the Parliament, and to supply his army with money the King was put to great straits. He established makeshift Mints at various places, Oxford, York, Shrewsbury, Newark, Carlisle, Pontefract, his headquarters for the time being, where many odd-looking pieces of money were coined—lozenge-shaped, octangular, round, small bits of silver plate stamped with a rude castle, etc. The guinea, by the way, was first coined by Charles II, of gold brought by the African Company from Guinea.

For a long period our coinage was largely made by Boulton & Watts, of Soho, Birmingham, the Tower Mints being inadequate. In 1806, however, Sir Robert Smirke, a famous architect of his day, was entrusted with the erection of the present Royal Mint from designs prepared by Johnson. The new building, which stands on the north side of Tower Hill, was completed in 1811, new machinery being introduced in 1881 and subsequently. The Master of the Mint *ex officio* since 1870 has been the Chancellor of the Exchequer for the time being, a Deputy Master being responsible for the work. Amongst former Masters have been famous scientists, as Sir Isaac Newton and Sir John Herschell.

TOWER OF LONDON (The). In 54 B.C. when Cæsar invaded Britain for the second time, it is recorded that a Celtic fortress stood on Tower Hill, probably an earth-work, on which the Romans erected a fort, which may be said to have been the beginning of the Tower of London. From another fortress near the site of the present Blackfriars Bridge called the Arx Palatina, or Imperial citadel, which probably stood on the site of the later Baynard's Castle, they built a wall on the river-bank eastwardly to the position of the present Tower, where they erected another Arx Palatina to protect "Augusta," as the Romans called London. Some thirty years back, on the removal of buildings abutting on the White Tower, a fragment of the Roman Citadel was discovered, proving that William the Conqueror, the builder of the White Tower, not only erected his fortress on a site chosen by the Romans, but also utilised what was left of their Arx Palatina. William, however, pulled down a large portion of the Roman wall which stood between his Tower and the river, to make more room for his stronghold, the name of which is said to have been derived in the first place from the whiteness of the stone used, which, at a later date, was renewed by frequent coatings of whitewash. It was completed in 1077-8; and probably at the Conqueror's death, in 1087, it stood alone, protected on the river side by a great wall.

Gundulf of Rochester was the architect, and it is likely that he also designed the Palace and the Tower afterwards called the Wakefield. In 1091 the White Tower, Stow says, was much shaken by a tempest, so that it had to be repaired by William Rufus and Henry I. In 1597 the land entrance to the Tower was on the west, the Iron Gate on the east being seldom or never used. The moat, which dates back to the Conquest, was formerly flooded with Thames water each incoming tide, it being then 100 feet wide at its greatest breadth. For eight centuries the old walls were encircled by water, spanned by four bridges, until finally the Duke of Wellington drained the moat and prevented further ingress of the tides. The Middle Tower is the first Gate of the Citadel, and like that at the Bloody Tower, its portcullis is still in working order. Here it was that Elizabeth knelt to thank God on returning to the Tower a Queen five years after she had left it as a prisoner. Next comes the Byward Tower, formerly called the Warding Gate, which dates back to Richard II. Here the Yeomen Warders, who are distinct from the "Beefeaters," have their "parlour." 'Near the Bloody and St. Thomas Towers (the latter named after Thomas à Becket) formerly stood some mean houses which bore the name of Mint Street, the Tower Mint being situated here. The Ballium Wall is coeval with the White Tower. It runs from the Bell to the

Beauchamp Tower, and it may be of interest to know that the name of the "Old Bailey" is derived from a Ballium Wall which stood there. The Tower of St. Thomas dates from the reign of Henry VIII; it was rebuilt in 1866.

A few steps from and opposite to the Traitors' Gate is the Bloody Tower of awful memories. This was the prison of the condemned from Westminster. From the river, through the Traitors' Gate, they came, rarely to leave the place of their confinement until the day of their execution. This tower, in the days of Queen Elizabeth, was called the Garden Tower, but its present sanguinary name is traditional, and the horror still clings. Here the little Princes, the sons of Edward IV, were murdered in 1483. Here have been played out many tragedies, too afflicting for details. Here the Duke of Northumberland, the father-in-law of Lady Jane Grey, Cranmer, Overbury, Laud, Raleigh, and many more awaited their execution; and here the infamous Judge Jeffreys died of drink and despair. This tower dates from Edward III and Richard II; the Bell Tower from Richard I; the Wakefield (so called from the prisoners taken at the Battle of Wakefield being confined there), from Henry III. There are also the Devereux Tower, Lanthorn Tower, Salt Tower, and the Cradle, Well, and Iron Gate Towers.

Until the reign of Charles II the Tower

was occupied as a palace by all our kings and queens. It was also a prison-house for other than the condemned, and here were confined many notable captives: David, King of Scots; John, King of France; Charles of Blois; the Duke of Orleans. Of the many traitors and so-called traitors who were executed here, we can only mention a few: Lord Guildford Dudley, and his wife, Lady Jane Grey, Queen Anne Boleyn, Katherine Howard, Essex, Strafford, Laud, Balmerino, Lovat, Monmouth—but the list is too long.

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